FBIS DAILY REPORT
CONTENTS

Soviet Union

Vol III No 029 12 February 1987

USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

Bogdanov on Testing, U.S. 'Ultimate Bunker' [Pozner] AA 1
Gerasimov, Nazarkin on Future of Moratorium AA 3
Gerasimov: Free To Test AA 3
Nazarkin: No Longer Bound AA 4
Borin on U.S. Allies' 'Unchanged' SDI Position AA 4
Chernyshev on SDI: Maginot Line in Space [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 6 Feb] AA 6
Soviet Experts Deny USSR Has SDI Program [Gontar, Morozov, Asparukhov in Sofia OTECHESTVEN FRONT 10 Feb] AA 8
White House Discusses New ABM Interpretation AA 11
Mnatsakanov on 'Price Tag' AA 12
IZVESTIYA Cites Shultz, Others [10 Feb] AA 14
U.S. Allies Express Concern AA 15
Bogachev: ABM Demagoguery AA 15
Chernyshev: Undermines Relations AA 16
Reagan Requests Lifting of ASAT Limitations AA 17
LATE REPORT: Gorbachev to Speak 16 February AA 17

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

Arbatov Chairs Meeting of Soviet UN Association CC 1
Adamishin Appointed UNESCO Commission Chairman CC 1
Economic Symposium Delegate Ivanov Interviewed [Kuznetsov in IZVESTIYA 8 Feb] CC 2

CHINA

Paper Projects Commodities Trade To 'Double' [EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA] B 1
Foreign Trade Official on Stabilized Trade Ties B 1
PRC Signs Treaty on Nuclear-Free Pacific B 2

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan Announces National Reconciliation D 1
Najibullah Speech [IZVESTIYA 7 Feb] D 1
PRAVDA Correspondent [Okulov, 9 Feb] D 3
PRAVDA Notes Amnesty [Okulov, 8 Feb] D 6
Interior Minister on Amnesty [Oliynik in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 10 Feb] D 6
IZVESTIYA Traces Process [11 Feb] D 7

Cease-Fire Violations Rebuffed as 'Self-Defense' D 8
Foreign Minister Visits India, Praises Support D 8
Ends Official Visit D 8
USSR Passenger Plane Downed by Rocket 9 Feb D 9
'Extremists' Down Plane D 9
U.S. To Send More Stingers to Afghan Dushmans D 10
[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 10 Feb]
Katushev Receives Afghan Trade Delegation D 10
[IZVESTIYA 8 Feb]

EASTERN EUROPE

Shevardnadze on Nuclear-Free Zone Initiative F 1
[Prague RUDE PRAVO 6 Feb]
Shevardnadze on Long-term Cooperation With CSSR F 5
Polish Foreign Minister Orzechowski Visits 9 Feb F 8
[IZVESTIYA 11 Feb]
Orzechowski Departs F 10
Ryzhkov Receives Romanian Ambassador in Moscow F 10
[AGERPRES]
Nikonov, RCP's Barbulescu View Agricultural Ties F 10
[AGERPRES]
Romanian Friendship Delegation Marks Treaty F 10
[IZVESTIYA 8 Feb]

WESTERN EUROPE

Sakharov Accepts Greens Invitation To Visit FRG G 1
[DPA]
FRG Bank Director Granted Meeting With Antonov [IZVESTIYA 8 Feb] G 1
Economic Cooperation Commission Opens in Helsinki G 1
Ryzhkov Message to Sorsa [IZVESTIYA 10 Feb] G 1
Additional Reportage [cross-reference] G 2
CPSU Plenum Participants Meet Austria's Vranitzky G 3
[IZVESTIYA 4 Feb]
Supreme Soviet Talks With UK MP's Stress Ties G 3
[IZVESTIYA 6 Feb]
Zagladin on Aims, Achievements G 4
[Krivopalov, Pakhomov in IZVESTIYA 8 Feb]
U.S. Blamed for Stalled FRG-Portugal Base Talks [Konstantinov] G 6

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Reportage on Al-Bid Delegation Visit to Moscow H 1
Greeted at Airport H 1
Lays Wreath at Mausoleum H 1
Gorbachev Receives Al-Bid H 2
[PRAVDA 12 Feb]
Moscow Radio Comments [Solton] H 3
Hold Kremlin Talks H 3
[PRAVDA 12 Feb]
Dobrynin Receives Official H 5
Cultural Agreement Signed H 6
PDRY Leadership 'Rectifying' Past Mistakes H 6
[Prokofyev in TRUD 6 Feb]

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

CPSU Sends Jubilee Greetings to Tanzanian Party J 1
[PRAVDA 5 Feb]
S. African UDF Leader Explains Liberation Role J 1
[Shinkarev in IZVESTIYA 9 Feb]
Chadian GUNT Denounces Government Statement J 2
KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Discusses Chad Conflict J 3
[Bausin 10 Feb]

USSR NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Prokhorov Discusses Options for Electoral Reform R 1
Papers Analyze Success of Raykom Secret Ballot R 2
Latvia's Pugo Hails Election of Plant Director R 5
[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 7 Feb]
New Satirical Program Takes Aim at Shortcomings R 6
Book Argues Against Private Ownership Interests R 7
[Glagolev in PRAVDA 6 Feb]
TV Portrayal of Lenin-Bukharin Argument Reviewed R 8
[Listov in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA 28 Jan]
Lukyanov, Others Mark Aeroflot Day in Moscow R 9
Efforts To Improve Aeroflot R 9
Commission Formed To Draft New Writers' Statute R 10
[LITERATURNAYA GAZETA 2 Jan]
I.T. Frolov Elected Philosophical Society Head R 11
[PRAVDA 1 Feb]
Philosophical Forum Held R 12
[IZVESTIYA 11 Feb]
Briefs: Kiev Radiation Health Center; NOVOSTI News Conference R 12

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Economic Restructuring, Joint Enterprises S 1
[Ivanov, Golovachev in TRUD 4 Feb]
Importance of Rotary Technology Stressed S 4
[PRAVDA 9 Feb]
Defense Industry TU Congress Ends [TRUD 4 Feb] S 6
Smagin New Chief of Petroleum Products Supply S 6

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Agricultural Developments for 29 Jan-4 Feb Noted T 1
Pavlov Views Winter Crop Losses, Prevention T 2
[IZVESTIYA 5 Feb]

BOGACHEV ON TESTING, U.S. 'ULTIMATE BUNKER'

LD051153 Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 6 Feb 87

["Daily talk" by Vladimir Pozner, state television and radio political observer, with Dr Radomir Bogdanov, deputy director of the United States of America and Canada Institute, Moscow]

[Text] Thank you and hello. As the world now knows, at 7:20 local time on Tuesday morning, the United States conducted its first nuclear test of 1987. It was the first nuclear test of 1987 and the 25th nuclear test conducted by the United States since the Soviet Union imposed upon itself a unilateral test ban. That was back on 6 August 1985. So the score has been 25 to zero in favor of the United States. As we all should know, the Soviet Union made an official statement to the effect that should the United States continue testing in 1987 the Soviet Union would have no choice but to resume its own nuclear tests.

With me in the studio today is Doctor Radomir Bogdanov of the well-known and respected United States and Canada Institute in Moscow. Dr Bogdanov, consider these facts: Number one, the test was conducted 2 days ahead of the officially announced date, because it was supposed to be done on the 5th of February, it was conducted on the 3d. Number two, the United States Government knew very well and knows clearly that this particular test probably brings down the curtain on the moratorium. Number three, it was done to a background of noises coming from different official quarters about the desire of the United States to achieve a nuclear-free world, with the exception of Dr Perle, who does not want to see a nuclear free world...

[Bogdanov, interrupting] and some other people..

[Pozner] Well, at least he says so openly and officially.

[Bogdanov] Yeah.

[Pozner] With these things in mind, how do you evaluate, how do you assess, what does this nuclear test mean?

[Bogdanov] You know, I never belonged to the school of thought, members of the school of thought, which expected this administration to reciprocate the Soviet Union. And to be honest with you I expected that. What I didn't, that they will produce that 2 days earlier, and they may have some technical explanations for that, but it doesn't matter at all, because it's a political business, not a technical one. You know, somebody, I don't remember exactly who, defined the present White House as the ultimate bunker, and I thought, what does it mean, what they had in mind you know. Now I understand. They are just really living in the ultimate bunker for the last 2 years, cut from the realities, cut from the real life, believing in their own world and doing their own job. And my conviction is that they have done it deliberately, having in mind two things: Number one, the next Presidency; Number two, the Congress.

[Pozner] Would you please enlarge on that. What do you mean by the next President?

[Bogdanov] The next Presidency -- you never know who will catch the White House, and whoever is in the White House will be tied up by this act because they now provoke the Soviet Union; they know our latest position about that, to resume testing, and if you do that Pandora's box is opened, and the next administration will have not only tied by in this way given a free hand to continue building up American nuclear superiority.

[Pozner] In other words, they're trying to create a situation where the next President, regardless of what he wants, will be forced to continue along those lines.

[Bogdanov] Yes, yes, he will be forced.

[Pozner] Ok...

[Bogdanov] Number two...

[Pozner] What about Congress?

[Bogdanov] Congress, they know, and we know and the whole world knows, that the Congress is going to introduce some resolutions limiting freedom of actions for this administration in the field of nuclear testing, and they have done their job now. They have demonstrated to the Congress that they will sabotage any of their decision, they will weather any of Congress' resolutions. And they have demonstrated, if you like it's a kind of contempt of Congress [laughter] I'm sorry it's none of my...

[Pozner, interrupting]...contempt of the American people, the majority of whom would like to see a stop to nuclear testing...

[Bogdanov] Yeah, but, Vladimir, my view they're living in the ultimate bunker, they don't care about that. That's my explanation, that's my explanation. How rational it is I don't know, but it's very sad event. Maybe it's the beginning of the very, you know, I wouldn't like to say the beginning of the end of serious, you know, arms control, things like that, but I'm very pessimistic.

[Pozner] Thank you very much Dr Bogdanov. Let me say in conclusion that this last, or latest, test was not simply number 25. I tend to agree with you that it's a test that has in addition to military meaning, perhaps a far greater political meaning...

[Bogdanov] Yeah, yeah.

[Pozner] And that it will take an enormous amount of foresight and even courage on the part of the Soviet Union to handle this. What I mean is, I don't believe -- there has not yet been an official statement by the Soviet Government as we tape this discussion -- I don't believe the Soviet Union will react in a kind of tit-for-tat sense, and I do believe that regardless of what we do we will leave the door open to conclude an agreement on a general test ban. I'm sure of that.

[Bogdanov] It is very much on the agenda, very much, and I'm absolutely sure that the American side will not be able to provoke us, to destroy everything. That is their aim but it doesn't mean they will succeed.

[Pozner] Thank you very much Dr Bogdanov. This is Vladimir Pozner.

GERASIMOV, NAZARKIN ON FUTURE OF MORATORIUM

Gerasimov: Free To Test

LD062218 London BBC Domestic Service in English 0710 GMT 6 Feb 87

[From the "Today" program, presented by John Timpson: telephone interview with USSR Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gennadiy Ivanovich Gerasimov in Moscow -- live]

[Text] [Timpson] Good morning.

[Gerasimov] Good morning.

[Timpson] Can you tell me, is the Soviet Union about to start testing nuclear weapons again?

[Gerasimov] We think that we are now free to start testing, but it does not necessarily mean that we are going to test tomorrow. I think that the decision to test will be taken -- with considerations to be taken [as heard]: political, military and other considerations. But now we feel free.

[Timpson] Is there considerable pressure from your military men to start testing again?

[Gerasimov] We have this pressure, that's we decided that we cannot continue this forever. We had 542 days without testing, and the Americans had 25 tests during this period, and overall, in general, the Americans had more tests then we had, so they must be ahead of us. If we assume that the Americn military brass shines as well as the Soviet military brass, then the Americans must be ahead of us. So our military are saying: Look, we cannot continue with this forever because there is a danger of a technological breakthrough. And maybe I can emphasize that we said -- and we're going to say it again -- that we are ready to stop testing as soon as the Americans stop their tests.

[Timpson] But can I just press you on this a little? You say that you've gone 542 days now without testing; for how much longer can you go without testing?

[Gerasimov] Well, I can only repeat that the decision to test, if and when, will be taken with all these considerations, with the developments [as heard].

[Timpson] So it might be in a matter of days, weeks, months? You simply don't know at the moment?

[Gerasimov] Well, my personal feeling is that it is not a matter of days. But because the Americans had their test in Nevada, with great regret we are saying now: look, we tried hard, we invited them five times to join us in our good example. We think that the matter of control, which the Americans cited as one of their objections, doesn't exist any more, because almost everybody agrees that this matter of control can be settled -- the technical means are here. So the Americans are now saying that they are going to test as soon as they rely on nuclear deterrence [as heard], which means forever.

[Timpson] If you do start testing again, will it be to test new nuclear technology, or to make sure that your existing stock of nuclear weapons is working?

[Gerasimov] I think that it will be the testing for new technology, because we think that we have another method to check on our nuclear arms, to see if everything is in working order, if our powder is dry, so to speak. We have even said that if America cites this particular reason for their testing, we are ready to give them all our secrets -- how we manage to test our nuclear weapons without actually having nuclear explosions.

[Timpson] Can I ask you about the statement by Mr Gorbachev to some United States senators yesterday? He said that relations are now at a crossroads. What did he mean by that?

[Gerasimov] I think he meant that we must now decide if we are going to continue this road of confrontation, which America testing, I think, emphasizes. Because for instance in Geneva we have negotiation. And at Reykjavik we were pretty close to a nuclear-free world which if you believe what President Reagan is saying, is his dream -- a nuclear-free world. I know it is not the dream of your prime minister, but the American President said that it is his dream, and we came quite close to having this dream as a reality., Unfortunately, we moved backwards from Reykjavik and that's why I think that we are now at a crossroads. Which road to take: the road to a new escalation of the arms race, which American testing emphasizes so well, or the road to accomodation, the road to behave as civilized natured man behaves in a nuclear age.

[Timpson] Mr Gerasimov, thank you very much.

Nazarkin: No Longer Bound

LD062332 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 6 Feb 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast; announcer-read report over video of Nazarkin, deputy head of Soviet delegation, addressing session of conference on disarmament in Geneva]

[Text] The new U.S. nuclear test at the test site in Nevada has been condemned by the participants of the session of the conference on disarmament in Geneva.

Comrade Nazarkin, deputy head of the Soviet delegation, recalled in his speech: As the Soviet Government has warned, in connection with what happened on 3 February in Nevada, the Soviet Union is no longer bound by its unilateral moratorium on any nuclear tests. The Soviet representative also said the USSR is ready, on a reciprocal basis, to stop the implementation of its test program if the United States discontinues its program.

BORIN ON U.S. ALLIES' 'UNCHANGED' SDI POSITION

LD060052 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2000 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Nikolay Borin commentary]

[Text][Announcer] Speaking to the Budget Appropriation Subcommittee of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress, Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger said, and I quote: We could see a space deployment of SDI far earlier than the year 2000.

And he also said: We believe we are close to being able to recommend deployment decisions. Reacting to this report from Washington, the British defense secretary, George Younger, has declared that as far as SDI is concerned the British Government's position has not changed. We are very clear, he went on to say, that under the ABM Treaty, which we adhere to, research of the SDI is perfectly OK and perfectly acceptable within the treaty. But either development or deployment is not. And we believe that if that comes to that, further negotiations would be needed with the Soviet Union in a normal way. Research is all right, development of that kind is not. Our commentary is by Nikolay Borin, and this is what he writes.

[Borin] This reaction of the British defense secretary is quite legitimate. One can understand his categorical tone, for when London signed its agreement with Washington regarding Britain's participation in the SDI project, it stipulated that any phase of its deployment would necessitate serious talks with the Soviet Union and with NATO member countries. In Reykjavik the American delegation in essence rejected any serious discussion of the SDI issue. The American Star Wars program actually torpedoed the agreements reached on reducing nuclear armaments. Moreover, Washington is paying little heed to the many signals coming from London and other West European capitals, spelling out the need for the United States to strictly adhere to the ABM Treaty.

[Announcer] Do you think it realistic that President Reagan will decide on a hurried deployment of SDI [word indistinct]?

[Borin] Uncertainty about whether Mr Reagan will deploy SDI and switch to an active phase of this program stems from what the secretary of state has said. George Shultz stated on Wednesday that Mr Reagan was unlikely to decide this year whether to deploy the SDI system. But the short time period specified and the hesitant tone of his statement naturally arouses concern regarding the striving of the United States to put the weapon in space. I am more inclined to subscribe to the view expressed by Senator Dole, who thinks that the President supports an early phase of SDI deployment. This is confirmed by what Mr Reagan himself told THE LOS ANGELES TIMES last year in an interview.

Additional evidence of Washington's intention of ignoring the thinking of its European partners on this question is borne out by the extremely sharp displeasure voiced recently by Richard Perle, deputy defense secretary, over the wish of America's NATO partners for Washington to observe the terms of the SALT II treaty. This took place at the Munich annual conference of the Wehrkunde military scientific conference. Thus Britain's defense secretary, George Younger, and the British ambassador to NATO, Michael Alexander, sharply rebuked this imperative tone in talking to allies. But it seems to me that if Washington does finally endorse the Star Wars program, then it will ignore the opinion of its European partners regarding the ABM Treaty in the same way as it died with their opinion regarding the SALT II treaty. In this event, the most important treaty curbing the arms race, not only in space but also on the ground, would be breached.

[Announcer] And how do you regard Mr George Younger's statement welcoming research into SDI, while condemning its deployment?

[Borin] This falls into line with the Soviet stand advanced at Reykjavik. Moscow has repeatedly declared that it does not want to kill SDI. The Kremlin welcomes its research stage. This similarity of views in London and Moscow is encouraging. Should Washington endorse this stand, then the path will be cleared for reaching agreement on reducing nuclear armaments which at present is blocked by the American SDI.

CHERNYSHEV ON SDI: MAGINOT LINE IN SPACE

PM061405 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Feb 87 First Edition p 3

[TASS report with commentary by Colonel of the Reserve V. Chernyshev, candidate of technical sciences, under the "Specialist's Opinion" rubric: "In a Hurry To Cross the Rubicon: Space Warriors From the White House" -- first three paragraphs are TASS report]

[Text] Washington, 5 Feb -- As already reported, a session of the national security planning group was held under President Reagan's chairmanship behind closed doors at the White House Tuesday. It discussed the present state of the "Star Wars" program and the plans for the phased deployment of components of the "Strategic Defense Initiative."

At the meeting the hawks, above all Pentagon chief C. Weinberger, made a new attempt to secure a decision on bringing forward the beginning of the phased deployment of SDI. Judging from statements made by official White House and Pentagon representatives, the advocates of this dangerous step used as their "trump card" the claims that the "Star Wars" program work is "going better than expected." As NBC-TV notes, C. Weinberger states "The United States may deploy certain arms systems of this kind, including space battle stations, as early as 1994."

However, no unanimous opinion has yet been reached on this score in the administration. According to NBC, "some officials are specifically pointing out the early deployment of SDI will 'wreck the chances'" of concluding a Soviet-U.S. arms limitation agreement. Reagan himself, according to ABC, campaigned for the phased deployment of components of the "Star Wars" system within the tightest deadline. In the dispute on these questions, NBC notes, the scales are by all accounts tipping in Weinberger's favor.

In December last year a special seminar was organized for the President at the White House at which Pentagon representatives tried to show that a "preliminary" SDI system can be deployed by 1993-1994. The Pentagon chief and his assistants outlined the successes purportedly achieved in the process of implementing the "Star Wars" programs which would enable them to begin deploying the "first phase" armaments in the next few years.

Attempting at one time to pacify the world public alarmed at the dangers posed by the "Star Wars" program, the U.S. Administration circulated the thesis that its implementation was not planned for many decades to come. Its development would take a great many years and only when "everything was cleared up" would the decision be taken on the program's practical implementation. However, the U.S. hawks are demanding that an immediate decision be taken on the phased deployment of SDI.

The Pentagon chief pointed out that "at least five different solutions of this problem" are being worked on "with the aim of determining the best way to achieve the goal." "I believe it quite probable," he told correspondents accredited to the U.S. Defense Department, "that we shall want to deploy two or three of those systems." One option envisages the stationing in orbit between 1992 and 1994 of 250 space platforms each armed with 10 small homing missiles as well as the deployment on earth of a certain number of ABM missiles.

On the basis of these and similar projects, the hawks are urging the U.S. President "not to concede" anything on any account to the Soviet Union concerning the "Star Wars" program. The whole world knows about C. Weinberger's personal letter to the head of the White House on the eve of the Soviet-U.S. summit in Geneva in which he demanded that no concessions be made and on no account should fidelity to the ABM Treaty be confirmed.

The Reykjavik meeting, which raised the nuclear disarmament cause to an unprecedentedly high level and also exposed the whole unseemliness of the U.S. SDI program, gave an extreme fright to the "Star Wars" supporters. That is why they are now in such a hurry and have become so active in demanding that the "space Rubicon" be crossed as quickly as possible.

In the first place, the SDI supporters are trying to guarantee the continuation of the "Star Wars" program regardless of the results of subsequent scientific research. They are not at all worried by the fact that the statements on the Pentagon's intention to accelerate the implementation of the "first phase" of the program to deploy strike space arms exposes the White House's false assurances about the "purely research" nature of the work under way.

Second, the "star warriors" will do anything to "stake out" the space Klondike so that, as U.S. Attorney General E. Meese frankly admits, the "Star Wars" program cannot be "wrecked" by a future administration. Conservatives, the U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT writes, are trying to convince the President that the best way to ensure unfailing support for the program even after he has left the post is to demonstrate right now that some progress has been achieved on the path to the creation of an actual system.

Third, the U.S. military-industrial complex is rushing to attain a position of strategic superiority somewhat earlier by creating, in addition to the first-strike potential, some kind of "shield," albeit a quite primitive one with gaping holes, behind which the lovers of military adventures could feel "more confident" or, rather, more impudent. "If we can produce a system which will be effective and will make the Soviet Union's armaments ineffective," C. Weinberger said, "then we will be back to the situation when we were the only country with nuclear weapons." Even though the "first phase" will not guarantee the Pentagon the desired "effectiveness," some people still view it as the first step toward that coveted situation.

Fourth, one goal of the current campaign is to break the resistance of at least a section of those congressmen and senators opposed to SDI and to secure in the near future approval of the appropriations requested. The "Star Wars" advocates have clearly begun to seriously fear that as the absurdity and danger of the "Star Wars" programs for the United States itself are revealed, it will become increasingly difficult to secure large funds for it from Congress. The very prospect of the early deployment of SDI may make it difficult for some members of congress to oppose appropriations for this or to reduce them, commentator T. Wicker has written in THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Fifth, the campaign for the earliest deployment of SDI is aimed at placing a major obstacle in the way of any nuclear arms limitation and reduction agreements. The Pentagon is trying to "block the attainment of those compromises which may be needed for the conclusion of agreements in the arms control sphere with Moscow," and also to force the "withdrawal" of R. Reagan's agreement in Reykjavik to abide by the ABM Treaty for 10 years, the U.S. press writes.

Sixth, official Washington is trying to din into the U.S. and world public the idea that the implementation of the "Star Wars" program is "inevitable" and that it is "too late" and "futile" to protest against it.

Despite those arguments, this is roughly how sensible Americans are arguing today. In 2 years a new President will come to power in the United States. Agreement to abide by the ABM Treaty for 10 years would ensure Reagan's successor an opportunity to show flexibility and he would have freedom of action. However, the deployment of SDI in the early nineties would limit his scope. Those Americans are asking the reasonable question: Why should a Democrat-controlled Congress allow the President to impose his "Star Wars dream" with all its unpredictable consequences on his successor or on America's future? "For Reagan, 'Star Wars'," THE WASHINGTON POST has written, "is the same as the pyramids were for the pharaohs or the Coliseum for the Roman emperors. It is a document which is supposed to perpetuate the President's greatness."

The "Star Wars" apologists either cannot or do not want to grasp the real consequences of the militarization of space. France once created the "Maginot Line" which, despite its initiators' plans, weakened rather than strengthened the country's security. In that sense the "Star Wars" program is increasingly frequently being called a "Maginot Line in space." However, it weakens security throughout the world and threatens it with thermonuclear catastrophe.

After a nuclear war -- whether sanctioned or unsanctioned, deliberate or accidental -- the probability of which is increased most gravely by the deployment of SDI, there would be no "pyramids in space" left or indeed anyone at all to "judge the U.S. president's greatness." There would just be ruins left -- the ruins of treaties and agreements, the ruins of unused opportunities to create a safe world, and the ruins of human civilization.

SOVIET EXPERTS DENY USSR HAS SDI PROGRAM

AU112011 Sofia OTECHESTVEN FRONT in Bulgarian 10 Feb 87 pp 1, 3

[Interview with Major General Filipp Gontar, candidate of military sciences and expert of the Ministry of Defense of the USSR, and Colonel Vasiliy Morozov, candidate of military sciences and NOVOSTI military affairs observer, by correspondent Vasil Asparukhov "in the OTECHESTVEN FRONT correspondent's office in Moscow": "Who Is Shifting the Blame Onto Someone Else's Shoulders" -- date of interview not given; first two paragraphs are newspaper's introduction]

[Text] A claim is being spread in the Western mass media that the Soviet Union has already developed "its own Strategic Defense Initiative" [SDI], and therefore does not have "to react" to the deployment of U.S. offensive weapons in space under the "Star Wars" program worked out by Washington.

This was the motive for our Moscow correspondent Vasil Asparukhov inviting Major General Filipp Gontar, candidate of military sciences and expert of the Ministry of Defense of the USSR, and Colonel Vasiliy Morozov, candidate of military sciences and NOVOSTI military affairs observer, to a round table discussion.

[Asparukhov] In connection with the assertions being spread about in the West that the USSR possesses "its own SDI," the OTECHESTVEN FRONT readers are interested in knowing on what this view is based.

[Vasily Morozov] I would like first of all to emphasize at the present moment neither the USSR nor the United States have weapons deployed in outer space. However, to justify their assertion that the USSR has "its own SDI," the mass media in the West are claiming that the militarization of outer space began a long time ago, most probably with the appearance of satellites with the most varied military purposes, and that since that moment the USSR and the United States have been competing in mastering outer space for military goals.

The satellites used by both sides at present for communications, navigation, early warning of a possible missile attack, and so on are not weapons; they do not create a risk of a direct attack in space or of [passage illegible] being "fired" from space.

What is more, the above-mentioned satellite systems contribute to maintaining strategic stability, by depriving the opposing side of the opportunity to launch a sudden disarming nuclear strike. This is why the existence of military satellites in the hands of the USSR (as well as of the United States) gives no grounds for asserting that outer space is militarized and that the USSR has... (its own SDI). [punctuation as published] These claims are being circulated with the sole aim of "justifying" to the public the development and forthcoming deployment of the American broad-scale antimissile defense system containing space-based component elements, the most important of which will be the offensive space weapons.

[Filipp Gontar] We are witnesses to an attempts to shift the blame onto someone else's shoulders. Behind the American SDI is concealed the "Star Wars" program, dangerous in its aggressive nature. The United States does not want to give up the illusory dream of attaining military supremacy over the USSR. That is the real reason the United States is aiming at a new spiral in the arms race and at transferring it into outer space. This is borne out by the U.S. repudiation of the SALT II treaty and its undermining of the Soviet-American treaty on the limitation of antiballistic missile systems.

I would like to say a few words about the military-technical aims of the nuclear tests being conducted in Nevada. They are essential to the United States for the final development of the new warheads for the MX, Midgetman, and Trident 2 strategic missiles, and the nuclear weapons for the future ACM long-range cruise missiles intended for equipping the new B-1b and Atbyrategir bombers. Also a number of explosions (up to 10 out of the 24 explosions conducted during the unilateral Soviet moratorium) have been used for the final development of the nuclear warheads for the offensive space weapons being developed under the "Star Wars" program.

[Asparukhov] How would you briefly describe the offensive space armaments? Where does the particular danger lie?

[Vasily Morozov] Offensive space armaments are a fundamentally new type of offensive weapon. Here one is primarily thinking of the laser weapon, as well as kinetic weapons (electromagnetic guns, self-homing missiles, and projectiles [snaryadi], which possess great destructive power and are capable, within short spans of time and on a mass scale, of selectively destroying objectives thousands of kilometers away, both in space and on earth. The range of these weapons is global; deployed in a near-earth orbit and capable of maneuvering, they can at practically any single moment create a real danger to the security of any single state.

I would like to stress that space strike armaments are offensive weapons intended to carry out a first strike against the USSR and its allies. [paragraph continues]

They are distinguished by their military-technical specifications and capabilities. The offensive space weapons can be effectively applied to destroy space targets belonging to another country. They can also be used to strike important targets in the atmosphere and on the earth's surface. Finally, offensive space weapons, when used in the capacity of an "integrated" potential, are capable of sharply increasing the offensive power of the nuclear weapons and of giving them an exceptionally dangerous quality -- a capacity to deal a first strike and a hope that the already weakened counterstrike of the other side can be repulsed with the aid of the antimissile defense installations.

A particular danger of the offensive space armaments is they are designed for automatic application, excluding human participation. In this context I would like to point out that, whereas with the existing armament systems a certain amount of time is still left for assessing the situation, in order not to reach the point of no return, war with offensive space weapons can break out with lightning speed.

[Asparukhov] What lies at the basis of the offensive space weapons for the design of which the United States "needs" the nuclear tests?

[Filipp Gontar] The nuclear tests are necessary solely for creating the new types of weapons, including the "Star Wars" program. Washington's nuclear ambitions in space are not limited to creating the X-ray laser which is at the basis of the offensive space weapons. The design of a number of other nuclear devices of the so-called "third generation" is being envisaged. The reference here is to devices which generate directional high-energy particle beams which form a directed electromagnetic pulse and create a directed stream of strike bodies [udarni elementi] with high kinetic energy, as well as to devices in which the energy of a nuclear explosion is used to boost gamma lasers and high-energy lasers operating in the optical wavelength range.

[Vasiliy Morozov] If the United States abandons the nuclear testing in Nevada, this means it will have no X-ray laser or other "third generation" nuclear devices, that is, that the "Star Wars" program will not be accomplished. This is why Washington does not want to hold constructive negotiations on this issue.

[Asparukhov] A number of facts indicate that contrary to common sense the United States has started to implement the "Star Wars" program. If the United States starts the deployment of space strike weapons in near-earth orbit, what will be the Soviet response to these risky actions?

[Vasiliy Morozov] The political response to "Star Wars" is unequivocal: The Soviet Union is opposing the "Star Wars" program with the program of "Star Peace," a program for broad international cooperation which is of interest not only to the Soviet people, but also to the other peace-loving forces and to the whole of progressive mankind, because it is in the interest of all states.

I wish to reiterate once more that from the very beginning of the conquering of space the USSR has consistently appealed to the United States not to permit the arms race to be transferred into this area. The Soviet Union's declaration that it will never station weapons in space is well known. It is also well known that our country has on more than one occasion proposed to the United States a ban on space weapons, including antisatellite weapons. As early as 1983 the USSR displayed its goodwill by taking upon itself the obligation not to be the first to launch any antisatellite weapons into space, and called upon the United States to follow its example. Up to this moment Washington has failed to respond to this peace initiative.

In this regard I wish to stress the USSR has never concealed and does not conceal the fact it is conducting relevant scientific research studies in the space field, including the military aspect. However, it must be pointed out this activity is not directed at creating space strike weapons, but is connected solely with perfecting the space systems for early warning, reconnaissance, communications, and navigation. This is why I wish to declare the USSR does not have space strike weapons and an antimissile defense with space-based components at its disposal and, in contrast to the United States, has no intention of working in this direction. The Soviet Union is firmly adhering to the 1972 treaty between the USSR and the United States on the limitation of antiballistic missile systems and supports not its revision, as Washington is insisting, but the strict execution of its requirements. This was once again declared to the United States during the Reykjavik talks. If the United States, in contravention of this treaty, still creates offensive space weapons and a broad-scale antimissile defense system under the "Star Wars" program, if it builds its notorious "space shield" to guarantee a first strike with impunity against the USSR and its allies, then the Soviet Union's response will be adequate to the danger which Washington's development of SDI is creating.

Here one should bear in mind the material and intellectual potential of the USSR today is such that it can guarantee the creation for the Soviet Union of any counterweapon.

In essence the United States definitely considers that the USSR, to preserve the existing balance, will begin to create its own SDI, similar to the U.S. one, and in this way will be drawn into an arms race in space that will be ruinous for itself and will undermine its economy for many decades, so it will not succeed in carrying out its programs for the country's socio-economic develpment. It must candidly be pointed out these assertions are without foundation. The military side of SDI is no secret for the USSR, and does not scare it. The Soviet Union has other effective measures available to counteract the "Star Wars" program. These measures will be implemented at the appropriate time.

Here one should bear in mind the Soviet counteraction program will be such that it will be able to substantially incapacitate the U.S. antimissile defense system with space-based components, and its intercontinental missiles will become unusable. On the other hand, these weapons will possess the capability of penetrating the U.S. "space shield" and of striking a retaliatory blow unacceptable to the aggressor.

[Filipp Gontar] Those forces in the West who are counting on the USSR's "technological weakness" and consider that it cannot withstand the competition in near-earth orbit are deeply deluded. The experience of our history undeniably demonstrates the Soviet Union has inevitably found a response to all the provocations of the United States. However, our country has always declared, and continues to declare, it does not lay claim to greater security for itself than for others, but will not accept lesser security. Our ideal is a world without war and weapons.

WHITE HOUSE DISCUSSES NEW ABM INTERPRETATION

LD111420 Moscow TASS in English 1352 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Washington February 11 TASS -- A second conference on the "Strategic Defense Initiative" (SDI) in a few days took place in strict secrecy in the White House Tuesday.

According to press reports, the question it discussed was whether the United States should embark on large-scale testing of space-based missile defense systems and actually violate the Soviet-U.S. ABM Treaty banning it.

The Pentagon insists on the treaty's "broad interpretation" to bypass the document and orbit ABM systems.

Marlin Fitzwater, special assistant to the President and deputy press secretary, refused to disclose the specific decision taken at the conference and say whether the United States is going to begin testing "Star Wars" components in violation of the ABM Treaty.

The "broad interpretation" of the document has neither political nor legal grounds, said well-known American specialist John Pike, expert of the federation of American scientists.

Approving that interpretation, he said, effectively means renouncing the ABM Treaty.

Mnatsakanov on 'Price Tag'

OW101359 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1145 GMT 9 Feb 87

[From "The World Today" program presented by Eduard Mnatsakanov]

[Text] Hello, comrades. Allow me to start this broadcast with a brief quote: I have made a reassessment. I see the price tag, and I'm willing to pay.

One finds it hard to believe that this marketplace, bargain-style jargon relates to issues on which the future of mankind depends. I have quoted the words of U.S. President Reagan. He was the one that made the reassessment and decided to pay the price -- the price for the so-called early stage-by-stage deployment of the antimissile defense system -- space-based systems, the plans that preoccupy American imperialism today.

The matter, you see, is not simply limited to laboratory research in the framework of Star Wars and not even on developments [nazrabotka] in this direction. The matter now is in the deployment of first-strike weapons in space.

Is it really necessary to say this would be the most flagrant violation of the Soviet-American ABM Treaty, or that this is a dangerous, demonstrative, and provocative departure by the American side from the agreements reached by the leaders of the USSR and the United States in Geneva and Reykjavik?

President Reagan is in a hurry to expand as much as possible work on the Strategic Defense Initiative so his successor will not be able to reject the program. This is how the situation is being assessed by a commentator of the British ATV televition company.

Weinberger is applying pressure, trying to get deployment to go ahead as soon as possible. He is striving to prevent the possibility of rejection of the Star Wars program, which may be what the next president will do, writes THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Only recently American observers spoke about the last major problem facing the President, which lies in determining the direction Reagan should choose during the last 2 years of his Presidency — in the direction of arms limitations, or in the direction of Star Wars?

So, during the last meeting of senior members of the administration at the White House, with the President participating, a decision was taken to choose the latter direction. That is, to embark on the deployment of Star Wars components. The newly invented term in Washington — about the legitimacy of the so-called broad interpretation of the USSR -U.S. ABM Treaty — bears witness to the fact that the U.S. Government intends to discard the most important articles of this treaty standing in the way of the militarization of space.

This is the decision of the ultraconservative U.S. circles and President Reagan, judging by available facts.

Thus we are now speaking about the conscious undermining of one of the most fundamental bases of the contemporary world. It is precisely because of this that Washington, until the time is ripe, is attempting to keep the decision on the militarization of space a secret. The fact is these decisions are subject to the most serious criticism from both the majority of the U.S. Congress and from the U.S. NATO allies.

According to the report of the British newspaper THE SUNDAY TIMES West European countries and Japan have urgently called on the American President to refrain from taking a step that could prove to be fatal. THE SUNDAY TIMES says FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl addressed a special message to President Reagan regarding this question. The U.K. Cabinet and Lord Carrington, the general secretary of NATO, also called on the U.S. Government to abide by the ABM treaty.

Should the President disregard these calls, in the opinion of the newspaper, this would serve as a reason for one of the most serious flare-ups of discord within NATO since Reagan took over the Presidency.

This question could perhaps become the reason for serious differences and even clashes between the U.S. Congress and the White House. The fact is many American lawmakers are more realistic in their appraisal of the situation and do not, under any circumstances, wish to see the liquidation of the USSR-U.S. treaties.

Writing in THE NEW YORK TIMES, Democratic Senator Dale Bumpers says: Is it any surprise that former presidential national security adviser Scowcroft, six former defense secretaries, and out NATO allies demand compliance with SALT II treaty limits? Who can believe our world will become a better and more secure place if in future years the military arsenal increases by another 10,000 to 20,000 nuclear warheads? Comrades, these are very fair and undeniably convincing words. So why are the White House and the Pentagon stubbornly adhering to their insane course? Can it really be because of their pursuit of the illusory achievement of military superiority over the USSR?

Nevertheless we would very much like to hope the sensible forces of the American people will ultimately eliminate these plans.

Izvestiya Cites Shultz, Others

PM091615 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 4

[IZVESTIYA "Press Service" report: "About SDI"]

[Text] In an interview on an ABC television program U.S. Secretary of State Shultz raised the question of the so-called "broad" interpretation of the ABM Treaty with a view to proceeding on that basis to deployment of the SDI program.

According to the secretary of state, progress has been made. The efforts of the President and the defense secretary in the SDI sphere are producing results. We are forging ahead, and we will, perhaps, learn to defend ourselves against ballistic missiles. Such progress has been made on the program that it is now perfectly reasonable to consider that, if events and achievements develop as they are developing now, we should pay attention to the research program, namely: how to carry out deployment if the decision on it is adopted. This must be done in stages.

The SDI program was drawn up on the basis of a so-called "narrow" interpretation of the ABM Treaty, Shultz continued. However, it is quite clear now, taking into account the progress made, that it will be possible to continue the program still more successfully only if tests are permitted in a different form. That raises the question of a new interpretation of the treaty.

"There are some systems that need to be tested, but they cannot be tested given the 'narrow' interpretation of the treaty," Shultz added.

Senator Nunn, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, who participated in the ABC program, declared:

"I believe that a one-sided revision of the treaty's interpretation by President Reagan without consultation with Congress and the U.S. allies would be an extremely serious mistake by the present administration. It would also call in question the constitutional role of the Senate, which approved the present interpretation of the treaty in 1972."

Nunn continued: I wish to particulary emphasize that not even a broad interpretation of the treaty permits the deployment of the system which Defense Secretary Weinberger has chosen for early deployment in space. We are now approaching a confrontation with the President over questions of funding SDI and constitutional questions.

Senator Levin, member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, declared: If we renounce the treaty, that will lead not only to an acceleration of the arms race. By that decision we will destroy the chances of concluding an arms control agreement.

Commenting on the secretary of state's statements, ABC points out: Shultz' statement is one more indication the United States is moving in the direction of adopting the so-called broader interpretation of the ABM Treaty. The interpretation proposed by the Reagan administration will open the way to intensive tests in space and will, perhaps, pave the way to implementing Defense Secretary Weinberger's recent call for early deployment of Strategic Defense Initiative systems.

Meanwhile, the Netherlands has issued a warning that accelerated U.S. deployment of the SDI system could wreck the U.S.-USSR talks in Geneva. Foreign Minister Van den Broek reported in a radio interview that he had asked the Reagan administration to explain the stand taken by the administration with regard to early deployment of SDI. Van den Broek declared that in any case he does not believe the decision to deploy SDI can be adopted this year.

The British PRESS ASSOCIATION agency has reported that "there are growing fears among the American allies in West Europe, including Britain, over the impact of any steps on the course of the arms control talks with the Soviet Union and on the future of the ABM Treaty concluded by the two great powers."

U.S. Allies Express Concern

LD091012 Moscow TASS in English 0937 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Text] Washington February 9 TASS — The U.S. closest allies notified the Reagan administration of their concern about the variant of the deployment of an ABM system with space-based elements now under consideration by the White House.

The reports about a possible official approval by the U.S. administration of a "new" interpretation of the 1972 Soviet-U.S. Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty (ABM) have also sparked protests by allies. This interpretation would allow the testing and deployment of a space system.

The newspaper THE WASHINGTON POST reported yesterday that Canada's Foreign Minister Joseph Clark told U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz that such actions would not be supported by his government.

A letter of similar content was received by Shultz also from West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, THE WASHINGTON POST reports. Last week, Britain and Japan expressed their anxiety in conjunction with this.

Bogachev: ABM Demagoguery

LD061808 Moscow TASS in English 1616 GMT 6 Feb 87

["Washington Wrecks ABM Treaty" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 6 TASS — TASS military writer Valdimir Bogachev:

The American press reports that the Reagan administration is bent on ultimately emasculating the 1972 treaty on the limitation of ABM systems by demagogical interpretations and eventually burying it altogether by intensifying work to deploy space strike systems.

Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, a staunch opponent of any accords to lessen the threat of nuclear war, is now pushing in his public statement the idea that the 1972 treaty allows the development of ABM systems based on new physical principles. That is, laser, particle-beam and other weapons.

Having lost every sense of reality, Weinberger cites the agreed statement D, the purpose of which is precisely to ensure compliance with the obligation not to deploy ABM systems and their components except those listed in Article III. Article III, meanwhile, stipulates limits on the number of ABM launchers and ABM interceptor missiles.

The Pentagon chief with his interpretations of quite unambiguous stipulations of the treaty resembles a subservient accountant from an old fable who, before answering his master's question. "How much is two times two?" always asked, "and how much do you want?"

The White House's fuss over the stipulations of the treaty and the intention of certain forces in Washington to begin "early phased" deployment of extensive space-based defenses at the start of the 1990s call in question the reputation of the incumbent U.S. Administration as a negotiating partner. It was not long ago that President Reagan promised in Reykjavik to refrain in the next 10 years from violating the 1972 treaty, which bans ABM defenses for the entire territory of the country.

In the past six years the U.S. Administration has never responded to the appeals of the world public to take at least one practical step to illustrate Washington's goodwill. Instead, the White House shows a zeal worthy of a better cause in subverting earlier agreements on the limitation of the arms race. To all appearances, President Reagan is still guiding himself by the threadbare philosophy of last century's militarists, according to whom the gun muzzle is the best referee in international relations.

Is not it time for Washington to show common sense? When problems of war and peace are in the balance, the stakes are equally high for all the peoples of the world without exception.

Chernyshev: Undermines Relations

LD091652 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1242 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow, 9 Feb (TASS) -- Vladimir Chernyshev, TASS military affairs observer, writes:

If the existing treaties and accords prevent the R. Reagan administration from developing [sozdavat] new weapons, then the White House acts on the principle -- so much the worse for these treaties and accords. Official Washington has already demonstrated such an approach in practice in regard to the interim SALT I and SALT II treaties. Now, evidently, it is the turn of the ABM Treaty: The administration is intensively blowing up issues about the last unilateral review of the interpretation of this treaty, and about the possibility of deciding on the schedule for deploying [razvertyvaniye] the first phase of the SDI. The White House's principal objective is to reject major provisions of the ABM Treaty which stand in the way of the intensive militarization of space envisaged in the "Star Wars" program.

It is only natural all this should cause serious concern both in the United States itself and among its allies. S. Nunn, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, has stated that a unilateral review of the treaty's interpretation would be an "extremely serious error" and would call into question the constitutional role of the Senate, which approved the present interpretation of the treaty in 1972.

For my part, I would evaluate such a step not merely as an "error," but as deliberate destruction of the very basis of arms control. After all, the concluding of this treaty represented a recognition of the fact that only mutual restraint in the area of ABM systems allows progress towards diminishing the danger of a nuclear war and limiting and reducing arms. A unilateral review of the treaty's main restrictions at a time when its tremendous significance for the stabilization of the international situation is keenly felt throughout the world would amount to a blatant admission by Washington of the fact it is not in the least aiming at curbing the arms race and at beginning arms reduction.

Washington's "new reading" would cancel the ABM Treaty and would instill doubt as to the appropriateness of concluding any other agreements or treaties with the present administration. Moreover, the whole idea of arms control would be jeopardized and, for the remaining 2 years of this administration at least, it would be effectively dead.

The "new interpretation" of the ABM Treaty is needed by those strategists in R. Reagan's administration who are striving to annul all measures in the sphere of arms limitation and reduction, to preserve tension in the world, to maintain the deadlock at the Geneva talks on nuclear and space weapons, and to undermine the fundamental bases on which USSR-U.S. relations are built.

REAGAN REQUESTS LIFTING OF ASAT LIMITATIONS

LD110834 Moscow TASS in English 0806 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Washington February 11 TASS -- The Reagan Administration has now demanded that U.S. Congress lift all limitations on the testing of the anti-satellite (ASAT) system involving a real target in outer space and on the batch production of big-eye binary airbombs filled with deadly nerve gas which begins this year.

The demand came in proposals submitted by the administration to Congress for change to the wording of some laws now in force.

A White House spokesman told TASS that the aim of the move was to remove what he called unnecessary limitations on the President's powers related to strategic programs.

According to the DEFENSE AND TECHNOLOGY magazine, the Pentagon plans to put into service 56 F-16 fighter planes fitted out to carry anti-satellite weapons by 1992.

LATE REPORT: GORBACHEV TO SPEAK 16 FEBRUARY

LD121429 Moscow TASS in English 1421 GMT 12 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 12 TASS -- General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev will address on February 16 the participants of the International Forum "For Nuclear-Free World, for the Survival of Humanity." Head of the forum's press centre Karen Khachaturov announced this at a briefing for Soviet and foreign reporters today. There will be a live television broadcast of Mikhail Gorbachev's meeting with the participants in the forum.

Noting that the forum will be held in the Soviet capital from February 14 to February 16, Khachatorov said that more than 900 foreign politicians and public figures had already confirmed their readiness to participate in this international meeting.

ARBATOV CHAIRS MEETING OF SOVIET UN ASSOCIATION

LD102017 Moscow TASS in English 1852 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 10 TASS -- An enlarged session of the board of the Soviet U.N. Association has been held in Moscow under the chairmanship of Academician Georgiy Arbatov. The session discussed the objectives of the association in the light of the decisions of the 41st U.N. General Assembly session and the main directions of activities by Soviet public in support of the United Nations Organization.

The speakers stressed the great significance of an invigoration of efforts by various public and political circles to assert firmly new political thinking in international relations, a new approach to the resolution of the urgent problems of today.

In this respect the United Nations Organization, which is the centre for the coordination of actions by the states in the international arena, can make an even weightier contribution to strengthening the security of peoples, ensuring progress in disarmament and eliminating the danger of a nuclear catastrophe. An important step on that way was the approval by the U.N. General Assembly of the concept of a comprehensive international security system proposed by the group of the socialist countries.

The session adopted a resolution in protest against the irresponsible move by the Reagan administration -- the nuclear explosion on February 3, this year.

The participants in the session addressed a letter to Javier Perez de Cuellar, general secretary of the United Nations Organization, declaring support for the efforts of the United Nations Organization directed at developing constructive cooperation between states with different socio-political systems in the interests of strengthening peace and mutual understanding between nations, at preventing nuclear war.

The session of the board also discussed questions related to the cooperation of the Soviet-U.N. Association with the World Federation of U.N. Associations, its regional centres and national organizations.

ADAMISHIN APPOINTED UNESCO COMMISSION CHAIRMAN

LD120819 Moscow TASS in English 0811 GMT 12 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 12 TASS -- The USSR Council of Ministers has approved Anatoliy Adamishin, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, as chairman of the Soviet Commission for UNESCO Affairs. Mikhail Kapitsa was released from his duties of the chairman of the commission because of his transfer to another post. Yuriy Karlov has been appointed first deputy chairman of the USSR Commission for the UNESCO Affairs.

ECONOMIC SYMPOSIUM DELEGATE IVANOV INTERVIEWED

PM101217 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Interview in Geneva with I.D. Ivanov, head of the Soviet delegation to the international symposium organized by the "World Economic Forum," by own correspondent V. Kuznetsov under the "IZVESTIYA Interview" rubric: "On the Basis of Partnership"; date of interview not stated]

[Excerpts] Geneva -- The 17th international symposium organized by the "World Economic Forum" has completed its work in Davos. Taking part in its work were over 1,000 delegates representing governments, economic circles, and private companies and firms from 54 countries. Your IZVESTIYA correspondent asked participants in the meeting to impart their impressions. [passage ommitted]

I.D. Ivanov, head of the Soviet delegation:

It was noticeable in Davos what serious interest the Western business world displays in the USSR's new foreign policy initiatives in the field of disarmament and detente and the creation of an all-embracing system of international security, whose most important element is economic security for all states. On the basis of specific examples the members of the Soviet delegation showed the essence of the economic reforms in the Soviet Union. The sessions paid great attention to the practical problems of expanding cooperation with the Soviet Union, in particular the creation of joint enterprises. I believe that a useful exchange of opinions took place in Davos in the interests of the development of mutually advantageous international trade. [passage omitted]

CHINA

PAPER PROJECTS COMMODITIES TRADE TO 'DOUBLE'

OW091415 Moscow in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1200 GMT 8 Feb 87

[Text] Mutual cooperation in the fields of economy, science, technology, and culture between the Soviet Union and China has steadily expanded since the beginning of 1980. The soviet newspaper EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA [date of issue not specified] pointed out: The trade and economic ties between the two countries have been strengthened in the past several years. The total volume of trade between the two countries in 1985 exceeded 1.6 billion rubles. According to preliminary statistics, the total volume of trade between the two countries in 1986 rose 12.5 percent, reaching almost 1.8 billion rubles. The agreement on Trade and Payments stipulates that within a period of 5 years, the total volume of commodities the two countries provided each other will reach 12 billion rubles. By the end of the five-year plan, in 1990, the total volume of commodities provided each other by the two countries will reach 3 billion rubles, double that in 1985.

FOREIGN TRADE OFFICIAL ON STABILIZED TRADE TIES

LD111257 Moscow World Service in English 2310 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Finally, a brief interview on Soviet-Chinese trade, with the deputy foreign trade minister of the USSR, Yevgeniy Bavrin.

By preliminary estimates, Soviet-Chinese trade increased by 12.5 perent in 1986. In the opinion of the deputy minister, a major stage in the development of bilateral contacts was the resumption in 1983 of border trade. Its volume has grown more than fourfold and it has good prospects. Simultaneously, measures have been taken to expand overall trade and economic relations between the Soviet Union and China. These relations were stabilized by three inter-government documents signed at the end of 1984. Two of the agreements covered the joint development and exchanges of technologies and also cooperation in designing, building and updating industrial and other facilities, in training personnel and exchange of scientific and technical delegations.

A Soviet-Chinese Commission for Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technical Cooperation has been set up. Its co-chairmen are deputy prime ministers of the Soviet Union and China. In summer (?of) 1985 an agreement was signed on the Soviet part in [as heard] the construction in China of 7, and updating 17, facilities in the power, metallurgy, machine, coal and chemical industries and also on transport. Terms have been agreed upon for the building in China of a railway to connect the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region of China and Soviet Kazakhstan.

For the first time in years, in 1986 China held a trade and industrial fair in Moscow and the Soviet Union held a similar exhibition in Beijing. A plan has been drawn up for exchanging exhibitions for the period ending in 1990. The economic potentialities of the Soviet Union and China, the marked improvement in bilateral relations, make it possible to expand the contacts of the two countries beyond the boundaries of ordinary commodity exchanges. There exist conditions for the development of cooperation in production. For example, Chinese organizations have taken an interest in the idea of assembling Soviet cars in China. There are also other promising areas for cooperation in production, Yevgeniy Bavrin feels.

PRC SIGNS TREATY ON NUCLEAR-FREE PACIFIC

LD102025 Moscow TASS in English 1429 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Beijing February 10 TASS — The Chinese ambassador to the capital of Fiji, Suva, today signed Protocols 2 and 3 to the treaty on establishing a nuclear-free zone in the South Pacific (Rarotonga Treaty) on behalf of the Chinese Government, NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY has reported.

He handed over to Kamisese Mara, Fiji's prime minister and chirman of the South Pacific Forum, a message from Wu Xueqian, member of the State council and Foreign minister of China, expressing confidence that the realization of the Rarotonga Treaty would promote peace and security in Asia and the Pacific.

The Rarotonga Treaty bans the development, use and testing of Nuclear weapons and the dumping of nuclear waste in the region.

The Soviet Union was the first of the nuclear powers to have signed protocols to the treaty on December 15 last year.

The United States and France refused to join the treaty, while Britain said that it was studying it.

AFGHANISTAN ANNOUNCES NATIONAL RECONCILIATION

Najibullah Speech

PM091227 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Najib Speech"]

[Text] Kabul, 6 Feb -- A session of the presidium of the Supreme Extraordinary Commission for National Reconciliation in Afghanistan was held here yesterday involving representatives of provincial commissions. [Moscow PRAVDA on 6 February 1987 in its Second Edition on page 5 reports on the speech by PDPA General Secretary Najibullah in an article headlined: "Peace Is the Ultimate Goal." In the preceding sentence, PRAVDA reports the presidium session was held "today." Differences in the PRAVDA version of this article will appear in editorial notations below.] Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, delivered a long speech at the session.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo, the government, and the Supreme Extraordinary Commission, he stressed, have every reason to state that the course toward reconciliation and its practical implementation have stirred the entire population and received support from workers and peasants, the military and the intelligentsia, women and young people, our friends, and all progressive forces.

Najib stated that in 1 month hundreds of armed formations have gone over to the side of people's power and thousands of refugees have returned home. An amnesty decree has been published on the release of large groups of prisoners. Some 690 extraordinary commissions on national reconcilation have already been created in all provinces and cities and in many districts and villages in the country.

It must be reemphasized most forcefully that national reconciliation is the objective need of the present stage of the national democratic revolution. National reconciliation is historic step for our people and a courageous political initiative on the part of the PDPA which is of not only domestic but also international significance.

National reconciliation is the idea which ordinary people value and understand most of all. It is also important that it corresponds to the national customs, traditions, and the very spirit of our people. And, finally, reconciliation is not contrary to Islam.

But at the same time, Najib stressed, those who state that it was our weakness which prompted us to propose the idea of reconciliation are making the most glaring error. I would stress that only those who have a powerful military and economic buttress and secure support among the people can embark on such a step.

The ultimate goal of national reconciliation is the attainment of the long-awaited peace on our land, the Afghan leader stated.

National reconciliation is a comprehensive, all-embracing program consisting of many parts. Specifically, they are the cease-fire, the gradual withdrawal of the limited Soviet military contingent, the refugee problem, the creation of coalition administrative organs, the discussion and adoption of the new constitution, the creation of the conditions for the development of the national economy, and the provision of free assistance.

In accordance with the declaration of the Revolutionary Council, Najib went on to say, the DRA's Armed Forces terminated combat operations and began a cease-fire 21 days ago.

The other side is behaving just as we expected. The enemies are trying to aggravate the situation, destabilize it, frustrate the reconciliation, and compromise our policy. [PRAVDA here adds: Administrative centers, posts, and garrisons still come under fire, and the sabotage of communications and acts of terrorism continue. You all know about the explosion at the Indian Embassy.

Differences of opinion and demoralization have spread among the leadership of the opposition.]

We state that those who continue to talk to us in the language of weapons can expect a crushing rebuff. Retribution awaits those who raise their hand against reconciliation. Life shows that our course has great support among the people. However, the enemy is forcing us to fight fire with fire.

During reconciliation we are maintaining and developing our people's respect for Islam. This is manifested in particular in the restoration of Islamic values and the creation of conditions for freedom of religion. [PRAVDA here adds: Our adversaries cannot hush up incontrovertible facts like the election of 750 mullahs to local organs of state power or the nomination of 12 representatives of the clergy to the Revolutionary Council. The Afghan people and the country's clergy are convinced that Islam is not threatened by the April Revolution. Islam is threatened by the enemy of the Muslim world's liberation movement -- international imperialism headed by the United States.]

Our national reconciliation program has met with all-around approval from the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. The leadership of friendly India, which plays an enormous role in the world and in our region, has officially supported the DRA's initiative on national reconciliation. All peace-loving forces, the majority of the developing states, members of the Nonaligned Movement, and many international organizations consider the DRA's policy, aimed at reconciliation, to be the only right and effective one.

We are confident that our course toward national reconciliation will have a favorable influence on the talks between the DRA and Pakistan in Geneva, which will be resuming very soon through the mediation of the UN secretary general's personal representative.

At the same time, national reconciliation is contrary to America's strategic aims in the region. It is openly urging its allies to increase military support and is setting its own example in that respect.

Unfortunately, the Pakistani and Iranian authorities are also hindering the attainment of national reconciliation.

But despite all the hostile activity we shall follow our chosen path.

[PRAVDA adds: In conclusion, the general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee dwelt on the work of local reconciliation commissions and made proposals for the improvement of their activity.]

PRAVDA Correspondent

PM101030 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Feb 87 First Edition p 6

[Own correspondent V. Okulov report: "Afghanistan: Busy February"]

[Text] Kabul, February -- A green sheet is spread across the wall. On it is written in white letters: "Extraordinary Commission for National Reconciliation, Khuk-e Jabar District." Envoys from 25 villages have assembled behind long tables in the premises of a textile factory in Bagram, near Kabul. The inhabitants of their villages chose them after prayers in the mosques, and sent them here so that the "graybeards," as they are called, can together tackle questions not of district, but of statewide importance.

"We have gathered to consult about what can be done by way of reconciliation with the enemy, so that the refugees can return to their villages," Kabul provincial governor Mohammad Afzal Akram says, addressing the "graybeards."

"Let us appeal to our fellow countrymen who have gone to Pakistan and enter into talks with the bandits," an elder replies.

"If the government helps with money, we ourselves will restore the damaged houses and build a school. As long as calm is established," another delegate says.

"We will do anything to stop the shooting," a third adds...

The idea of national reconciliation came to maturity in the very midst of the people, who are immeasurably tired of the war. People do not want to mourn -- often at one and the same family cemetery -- both those who are killed and those who kill. The PDPA takes this into acount. As the vanguard party of the working people, it displayed its increased maturity by making the realization of the people's peace sentiments its strategic course. This course was elaborated at the 16th PDPA Central Committee Plenum, and confirmed just over a year later, on the party's initiative, by bold practical steps by the state authorities.

Let me remind you that at the beginning of January the DRA Revolutionary Council adopted a declaration "On National Reconciliation in Afghanistan." It defined political conditions within the framework of a nationwide dialogue which could lead to the creation of a coalition government with the participation of broad political forces. The key role in organizing this process was assigned to the National Front as an alliance open to all who regard themselves as Afghan patriots, including groups which do not acknowledge the PDPA platform and opposition "Islamic parties." The main organ for the implementation of this program is the Supreme Extraordinary Commission for National Reconciliation, set up under the auspices of the National Front. Practical steps were taken, creating a favorable atmosphere for dialogue with the opposing side. From 15 January the DRA Armed Forces ceased fire unilaterally and returned to their permanent stations for a period of 6 months. And at the end of the month a broad amnesty was declared for people who have renounced hostile actions.

The state authorities thus showed convincingly that the course of national reconciliation is not words, but a political reality. The pursuit of this course is expected to accelerate the process of political settlement of the situation in the region and promote the success of the Afghan-Pakistani talks, which will continue in Geneva through the UN secretary general's representative.

The first days of the truce were greeted as a festival among the people. In conversations in Kabul and the provinces with people from various social strata at that time, I saw how broad the support is for the PDPA's course of national reconciliation. A. Hatef, chairman of the National Front central council and leader of the Supreme Extraordinary Commission, also told me of this:

"People warmly welcome the commencement of a path of compromise and dialogue for the sake of peace. But as the Pashto proverb says, you cannot applaud with one hand. After all, there is another, opposing side."

The counterrevolution's reaction is well known. The so-called "league of seven" -- a group of organizations entrenched in Pakistan -- holds a position amounting to "war to the last drop of blood." The fact that this is the blood of their fellow tribesmen does not worry the dushmans' political leaders in the slightest. Or, incidentally, their mentors across the ocean. Officially, in their statements Washington's representatives try to represent the DRA Government's peace-loving actions as a "propaganda gesture."

In Kabul this cynical approach has been duly assessed.

"It is the simplest matter to reject our proposals. It does not take much intelligence," Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, has stated. "But it is not so simple to reject the people's will for peace and concord. That is a historical error, it is a crime..."

On orders from headquarters in Peshawar, the ringleaders of certain bandit formations are making coordinated attempts to wreck the truce. In various provinces of the country they are shelling cities, transport convoys carrying civilian goods, people's militia posts, and places where government troops are stationed. There is a clear trend to concentrate fire against units of the limited Soviet contingent in the DRA, which is strictly observing the terms of the truce. Diehard counterrevolutionary elements would evidently like to back up with fire the false thesis of their partners across the ocean, who claim that a political settlement over Afghanistan depends solely on the withdrawal of Soviet troops from the DRA.

All these actions, I was told by prominent politicians and public figures in Kabul, lead to two conclusions. First, they clearly expose the lack of interest of the initiators of the undeclared war against Afghanistan in the peaceful resolution of this keen regional conflict. As for the extremist ringleaders of the "league of seven," their behavior is simply adventuristic: The more stubbornly they oppose the peace efforts of the DRA authorities, the more they isolate themselves from the people as a handful of politickers plunging them into suffering.

The haste with which these figures plan to wreck the truce undoubtedly betrays their fundamental miscalculation in assessing the potential of the people's power, the firmness of the PDPA's positions, and its prestige in Afghan society, and testifies to their overestimation of their own potential. The shortsightedness of the ringleaders of the "seven" is also emphasized in statements made by envoys from the Afghan emigre community in the United States with whom I met in Kabul the other day. (Ziya Nasri), editor of the AFGHAN NEWS, published in New York, and his colleagues representing these circles had come to the DRA to familiarize themselves with the process of national reconciliation, a concept which, they say, they share. "We at last see a prospect of resolving the Afghan problem," they said in a conversation. "We are opposed to the obstructionist position of the 'league of seven,' and in general those people who do not represent anyone."

Meanwhile instances of practical implementation of the course set by the DRA Government are multiplying.

"The members of the Supreme Extraordinary Commission on National Reconciliation and the local commissions which are now being set up," A. Hatef explains, "despite the counterrevolutionary terror being perpetrated against them, are establishing contacts with commanders of armed formations and leaders of the opposition organizations inside and outside the DRA.. We are using both official possibilities and personal acquaiantanceships..."

Not infrequently the gangs themselvles take the initiative in making contact with the authorities. But here is a typical feature. Whereas small armed groups are moving increasingly actively toward talks, daily swelling the ranks of those who have laid down their arms, the ringleaders of the big groups on the whole adhere to implacable positions and threaten the waverers with annihilation.

The other day I had a conversation with Major General (Z. Ziyarmal), chief of the DRA Army Main Political Directorate. My interlocutor was optimistic, but restrained:

"Many rebel detachments have ceased operations against the armed forces. As for violations of the truce, they are occurring. But at the moment we are more concerned about the problem of the effectiveness of explanatory work in the regions of activity by the gangs. Army agitation detachments have gone to the villages and are giving material assistance to those who particularly need it. Did you hear the statement by the Supreme Extraordinary Commission? It warned those who are undermining the terms of the truce: Attempts to exert armed pressure on us will meet with a fitting rebuff every time."

The office of General (M. Khakim), deputy chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, is reminiscent of a headquarters conducting combat operations. But the general's concerns are peaceful. He coordinates the work of ministries, departments, and provincial authorities in receiving refugees. And although a special administration has already been set up to tackle this problem, (M. Khakim) is very busy.

The general showed me the standard plan for a refugee reception center. Everything necessary is provided for -- tents, water, food, medical help. I noticed that armed barricades are marked -- they will ensure that those arriving are safe from possible dushman attacks.

Such camps have been set up in the main border regions. And the concern for their safety is dictated by consideration of the realities.

"We have information," (M. Khakim) said, "that bandit formations and Pakistani Army units have closed the approaches to the border and set up terrorist groups to intercept refugees en route. All the same, as spring approaches the influx of Afghans returning home will grow. We are preparing for this. After all, we have to help the arrivals with housing, offer them work, and give them the opportunity to study."

The development of events in the DRA shows that the reconciliation process will be complex. An intensive struggle to achieve tranquility in the country lies ahead. The decisive role could be played by the people's own political creativity and their desire to overcome all obstacles in order to end the fratricide and gain the opportunity to build a new Afghanistan. No doubt not all the questions can be settled in 6 months. Time is needed in order to weave the political fabric of compromise, secure a shift in the positions of various enemy groups, and convince the enemy of the reliability of the guarantees offered. [paragraph continues]

But Kabul is prepared to spare no effort. People here realize that the alternative to national reconciliation is war. And therefore they intend, for their part, to do everything possible to turn the truce into a peace.

PRAVDA Notes Amnesty

PM091705 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Feb 87 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent B. Okulov dispatch: "Afghanistan: Steps of Reconciliation"]

[Text] Feb 7 -- The doors of Pol-e Charkhi jail near Kabul were flung open today for 1,282 prisoners -- the first among those being kept in custody for crimes against the people's power to be amnestied in accordance with a DRA Revolutionary Council decree.

These people include not only members of counterrvolutionary organizations but also people who have committed hostile actions out of thoughtlessness or who have been deceived by hostile propaganda. The revolutionary power's humane step will enable them to return to peaceful labor and atone for their guilt before their compatriots.

The goodwill gesture designed to promote the process of national reconciliation in the country contrasts sharply with the position of the counterrevolutionary leaders who are making active attempts to wreck the truce and complicate the situation in Afghanistan. Ahmed Shah Masud, for example, leader of the "Afghanistan Islamic Party" gangs operating in Parvan Province, imposes a fine of 100,000 afghanis on everyone who would like to leave the zone which he controls and go to the cities.

Interior Minister on Amnesty

PM110929 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Feb 87 First Edition p 3

[Correspondent Major A. Oliynik dispatch: "Pol-e Charkhi Opens Its Gates"; first paragraph is TASS report]

[Excerpts] Kabul, 9 Feb TASS -- Some 1,300 inmates of Kabul's central Pol-e Charkhi Jail have been released. This is the first group of former opponents of the people's power to be released in accordance with the amnesty decree adopted within the framework of the national reconciliation program proclaimed by the PDPA and the DRA Government.

On the eve of the release of prisoners from Pol-e Charkhi Jail Colonel General S.M. Golabzoy, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee and DRA minister of the interior, received me.

"The amnesty," he said, "is being implemented in accordance with the decision of the extraordinary PDPA Central Committee plenum and the DRA Revolutionary Council's declaration 'On National Reconciliation in Afghanistan.' On the basis of the amnesty decree, those being released are persons sentenced to 7 years' imprisonement who have served at least 4 years; all sentenced to 5 years; all who were under 18 years of age when they committed the crime; all women; all people over 60 years old. Those who have not come under the amnesty can be released on application from local peace jirgahs and national reconciliation extraordinary commissions. Naturally, on condition that they do not resume antistate activities. The only people to whom the amnesty does not apply are those who have committed acts of terrorism, organized explosions, or carried out espionage."

The first stage in the release of prisoners has taken place in Balkh and Jowzjan Provinces. Interior Ministry organs are now carrying out work to prepare for the amnesty in other parts of the country. [passage omitted on individual released prisoners]

... A rally took place outside the gates of Pol-e Charkhi Jail. Hundreds of Afghans, representatives of the Supreme Reconciliation Extraordinary Commission and the city authorities, and numerous prisoners' relatives participated in it. The rally was addressed by (A.Z. Razmdzho), member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the Kabul PDPA City Committee, and (A.R. Khatef), chairman of the Supreme National Reconciliation Extraordinary Commission Presidium.

IZVESTIYA Traces Process

PM101151 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent D. Meschaninov dispatch: "Motto -- Reconciliation"]

[Text] Kabul -- The beginning of this year was marked by important events in the sophisticated life of the DRA. An extraordinary PDPA Central Committee plenum was held 1 January to define the party's policy of the speediest achievement of peace and tranquillity in the country. A few days later the republic's Revolutionary Council proclaimed the declaration "On National Reconciliation in Afghanistan." On 15 January the Afghan Armed Forces unilaterally ceased fire with all kinds of weapons. The Second National Front Congress and the first session of the Supreme National Reconciliation Extraordinary Commission were held.

All these steps are aimed at normalizing the situation in Afghanistan by political means and seeking sensible compromises with the opposite side on the way to national concord and peace. Some 690 extraordinary commission have been set up in provinces, cities, districts, and villages within a short time and are functioning actively. Hundreds of armed formations have supported the military truce and decided to discuss disputed problems at the negotiating table. Thousands of refugees have returned to the motherland from Iran and Pakistan. These are the first results of the policy of national reconciliation. This is the response of ordinary Afghans to the appeal to end the senseless fratricidal war and to return to their home districts.

Unfortunately, the leaders of the seven counterrevolutinary organizations meeting in the Pakistani city of Peshawar responded differently to the Afghan leadership's peace-loving steps. Having categorically rejected the call for a dialogue, they are seeking to exacerbate the situation in Afghanistan and wreck the reconciliation process in order to try to compromise PDPA policy. Administrative centers and government troop posts and garrisons are continuing to be fired upon, communications are being sabotaged, and acts of terrorism are continuing.

Feeling support from its patrons, the counterrevolution is not only continuing to wage an undeclared war against Afghanistn but also doing its utmost to prevent refugees from returning. The United States continues to play the chief role in fueling tension around Afghanistan. High-ranking Washington administration spokesmen speak of all kinds of aid, which the counterrevolutionary leaders will continue to receive. (The decision to supply the dushmans with 150 Stinger missiles is further proof of this). Washington is continuing to gamble on the undeclared war and is trying openly and cynically to wreck the process of national reconciliation which has begun in Afghanistan.

"Despite all the hostile activity, we will travel the chosen path," Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, declared at a meeting with representatives of the provincial national reconciliation extraordinary commissions. "This will help us, on the one hand, to achieve our sacred and humane goal — through national reconciliation to the creation of universal civilian peace — and, on the other, to expose the true face of those who want to secure material and political advantages by continuing the bloodshed in Afghanistan and fueling tension in the region."

CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS REBUFFED AS 'SELF DEFENSE'

LD111055 Moscow TASS in English 1048 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 11 TASS — Some Western mass media, in particular the ASSOCIATED PRESS, in recent days carried reports alleging that the contingent of Soviet troops in Afghanistan has been violating the ceasefire which was declared on January 15 by the government of that country with a view to achieving national reconciliation.

NOVOSTI Press Agency was told by representatives of Soviet military circles that such reports are a gross distortion of reality and reflect a striving by Afghan reactionary forces and their patrons to thwart the process of a political settlement promoted by he Government of Democratic Afghanistan.

Aided and abetted by the United States, the leaders of Afghan contras have not only rejected the terms of the ceasefire but also taken advantage of the government troops' withdrawal to the places of their permanent deployment to step up bandit activities.

In this situation, units of Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and Soviet troops, when confronted with facts of fire at peaceful Afghan towns and villages and attacks of Afghan and Soviet military units, have been compelled to issue a rebuff to the bandits.

These have been cases of self-defense rather than "violations of the ceasefire", as provactively alleged by those opposed to and end to the undeclared war against Afghanistan.

FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS INDIA, PRAISES SUPPORT

LD091734 Moscow TASS in English 1639 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Text] New Delhi February 9 TASS — The policy of national reconciliation pursued by the leadership of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has met with ardent support both in the country and outside it, DRA's Foreign Minister 'Abdol Wakil, who is currently on an official visit here, told a press conference today.

Under these conditions, 'Abdol Wakil said, the stand of the Pakistani and Iranian authorities preventing the return of Afghans home is deplorable. A number of countries, above all the USA, have taken a negative stand on the humane national reconciliation policy. They are out to prevent its implementation, to foil efforts for putting an end to war, bloodshed and destruction. The U.S. Administration was taken by surprise by our peace offensive, 'Abdol Wakil pointed out.

The U.S. Administration's decision to supply counter-revolutionary gangs with new consignments of anti-aircraft missiles Stinger is evidence of Washington's commitment to its policy of waging an undeclared war against the DRA. The Afghan minister pointed out that the war had done enormous damage to his country.

Peace and tranquility can be restored in Afghanistan only on condition of an end to interference from the outside, he continued. 'Abdol Wakil stressed that the Government of Afghanistan has carried out the necessary preparations for the forthcoming Afghan-Pakistani talks in Geneva aimed at a search for a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan. Afghanistan, will, as before, participate in these talks from the positions of goodwill, guided by its wish to reach to settlement.

The minster spoke of the measures being carried out in his country in order to achieve a rise in the living standards of the broad sections of the population and democratizing social life. He spoke highly of the friendly assistance given to the Afghan people by the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

'Abdol Wakil noted that he had held fruitful talks in New Delhi on questions pertaining to the situation in the region and international issues of mutual interest. They proceeded in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual atmosphere [as received]. The two sides, the minister said, share common or close views practically on all issues under discussion. He expressed gratitude for the support reaffirmed by India for the national reconciliation policy.

Ends Official Visit

LD100801 Moscow TASS in English 0711 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] New Delhi February 10 TASS — 'Abdol Wakil, minister of foreign affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA), left for home today at the close of his official visit to India.

He held talks with Narayan Dutt Tiwari, Indian minister of external affairs. International matters of mutual interest and prospects for broader economic, trade, and cultural contacts between the two countries were considered at the talks.

Mr Wakil held a meeting with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi of India. The local press emphasized that India's support for the national reconciliation policy being implemented by the leadership of the DRA in the interests of ensuring the country's peaceful devlopment and a political settlement of the Afghanistan situation was reaffirmed during the visit.

USSR PASSENGER PLANE DOWNED BY ROCKET IN DRA

LD091527 Moscow TASS in English 1522 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Text] Kabul February 9 TASS -- An "An-26" plane with passengers on board was hit by a rocket when taking off from the airport in the city of Khowst at 11:30 of local time today, the Afghan news agency BAKHTAR said. The plane caught fire, lost control and plummeted to earth, killing thirty persons, including women, children and six crew members.

'Extremists' Down Plane

LD120921 Moscow TASS in English 0816 GMT 12 Feb 87

[Text] Kabul Feb 11 (CTK correspondent) — Afghan Foreign Minister 'Abdol Wakil has sent U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar a letter, informing him that extremists shot down a plane near Khost, east Afghanistan, killing 30 passengers and six crew.

This terrorist action proves that extremist forces are supported by reactionary imperialist circles in an attempt to hinder the process of national reconciliation in Afghanistan.

'Abdol Wakil called on the U.N. secretary general to use his authority for preventing similar cases.

U.S. TO SEND MORE STINGERS TO AFGHAN DUSHMANS

PM101157 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Feb 87 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Missiles for Bandits"]

[Text] Washington, 9 Feb — The Reagan administration intends to send the Afghan dushmans a new consignment of portable Stinger anti-aircraft missiles, THE WASHINGTON POST reports. The first batch of these missiles was handed over last spring despite protests from a number of U.S. military and political figures who feared these weapons would ultimately be used by terrorists against American targets.

A group of American military specialists on the CIA payroll is training bandits to handle the Stingers at bases in Pakistan. The training course lasts approximately 2 months, after which sabotage groups armed with Stingers cross the border of Afghanistan.

After the bandits return to the bases, specialists from the United States question them in detail and personally check the Stinger launchers. THE WASHINGTON POST points out that American military men mistrust the dushmans' stories about the number of aircraft they have destroyed. Nevertheless, obviously mythical figures for the dushmans' "victories" have already been reflected in propaganda documents of American government departments, and the State Department in particular.

Citing its sources the newspaper reports in the current fiscal year the U.S. Congress has allocated 600 million dollars for secret military aid to dushman gangs.

KATUSHEV RECEIVES AFGHAN TRADE DELEGATION

PM101057 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under general heading: "Official Reports"]

[Text] Talks were completed 6 February at the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations with a delegation of representatives of Afghan state departments and private national businessmen headed by DRA State Minister (F. Kh. Khalekyar) on cooperation in creating industrial and other enterprises in Afghanistan with the participation of the national private sector. As a result of the talks a corresponding protocol was signed. A talk took place between K.F. Katushev, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, and the Afghan delegation.

SHEVARDNADZE ON NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE INITIATIVE

AU091543 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 6 Feb 87 p 1

["Full Text" of interview with Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, by RUDE PRAVO chief editor Zdenek Horeni, "at the close of his 2-day visit to the CSSR": "Answers to RUDE PRAVO's Questions"]

[Text] [Horeni] Three political parties — the SED, SPD, and CPCZ — have launched an initiative aimed at setting up a nuclear-free zone in central Europe and a zone free of chemical weapons in Europe. How do you assess the significance of this regional initiative from the viewpoint of the aims of European and world security?

[Shevardnadze] We greatly appreciate and support this initiative for many reasons. First of all, the Soviet Union regards the very fact of cooperation between three recognized political parties of three European states standing on opposite sides of the military dividing line as a new positive feature and a new phenomenon in international relations. Second, the implementation of this proposal undoubtedly would improve the political climate in Europe.

The value of this proposal also lies in the fact that it organically fits in with the set of prevailing views on ways of ensuring European security and reducing the risk of a conflict, and it develops and complements these concepts.

Besides, this "proposal of three" is highly topical because it conforms with the view in Europe, a view that has been formulated with sufficient clarity, that it is high time to begin to implement substantive measures providing a guarantee that no unpleasant situation will occur at the border between the two military-political alliances.

Focusing their heightened attention on this issue in the Budapest appeal, the highest representatives of the Warsaw Pact member-states proposed a package of measures to reduce and completely rule out the likelihood of a sudden attack. The main idea is to initiate some sort of a "pruning" process in the zone of contact aimed at withdrawing from there weapons that could be used for a concentrated attack.

The idea is simple. The fewer tanks, tactical aircraft, and other devices employed to break through the enemy's defense lines amassed at the front line, the more stable the situation will be and the greater the certainty that aggression is impossible. Ultimately, such a course of events would result inevitably in a situation in which it would be possible to mutually dissolve the two alliances' military organizations.

Europe needs the largest possible area free of dangerous weapons. All proposals that zones free of nuclear, chemical, and other weapons of mass destruction be established in Europe, especially in its central and northern parts and also in the Balkans therefore deserve attention and support.

The Soviet Union, as all countries of the socialist community, consistently affirms its loyalty to the idea of establishing such zones.

The people of Europe have the opportunity to evaluate everything according to deeds, and not according to statements made by one statesman or another.

The military-political alliances facing each other in Europe were not formed at the socialist countries' initiative. We have still not abandoned our conviction that they should not exist at all. Because they do exist, however, we must do all we can for their mutual confrontation to be on the lowest possible level. That is exactly the purpose of the proposal submitted by the Warsaw Pact member-states to conclude a treaty with NATO countries on mutually refraining from the use of force and maintaining relations of peace. The same aim also is pursued by the Budapest appeal of the Warsaw Pact member-states to start specific negotiations on reducing the number of armed forces and conventional weapons in Europe.

A contribution to easing tension also would be made by promoting dialogue between the Warsaw Pact states and NATO and by establishing direct working contacts between the two organizations. We regret that NATO does not want to react to our proposal for the establishment of contacts between Marshal Viktor Kulikov, chief commander of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact, and General Bernard Rogers, supreme commander of NATO. Herbert Krolikowski, general secretary of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee, and Lord Carrington, general secretary of NATO, would also surely have something to talk about. As is known, while the first is ready for such a dialogue, the other has been avoiding it. What is it that hinders Mr Carrington? Could it be that his colleague and possible negotiating partner does not have a lordly title?

As you see, the situation is not developing very positively. We are making proposals and they are turning them down.

Are these facts, perhaps, not enough for nations to be able to get an idea of who is really working for security and cooperation in Europe, and who only puts on the mask of pseudo peace-loving rhetoric?

[Horeni] What needs to be done for the Vienna meeting to expand the mandate of the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-Building Measures, Security, and Disarament in Europe?

[Shevardnadze] First of all, we must strictly observe agreements reached previously within the framework of the all-European process. Let me recall that these agreements provide for progress from confidence-building measures toward a reduction of military confrontation by means of substantial cuts in the numbers of troops and armaments in Europe. These agreements are enshrined in the Helsinki Final Act as well as in the closing document of Madrid. Incidentally, this latter document explicitly mentions disarmament measures to complement the mandate of the Stockholm conference.

The question of the fastest possible transition toward actual disarmament measures in Europe concerns the interests of all European states without exception -- members of military-political pacts as well as neutral and nonaligned states. The Soviet Union believes that the most suitable forum for talks on all questions concerning negotiations on conventional weapons in Europe, including the mandate of these negotiations, is the Vienna meeting of representatives of states participating in the all-European process.

However, there are regrettably those -- I am thinking, in particular, of the United States -- who, while proclaiming their commitment to a balanced development of the all-European process and to the fulfillment of all commitments formulated in its documents, now contemplate excluding the problem of disarmament from this process and setting it apart. They claim that, supposedly, these problems have not been "inherent to the all-European process from the very beginning." I would say that this is a very liberal interpretation of this issue. It could generate the impression that the problems of arms buildup in Europe and European security have nothing in common.

But let us return to serious attitudes and proposals. During the first stage of the Vienna meeting, the Polish delegation explained the view of the allied socialist countries on expanding the mandate [of the Stockholm conference] and proposed that the mechanism of the first Stockholm conference should be used for negotiations at a second Stockhom conference on reducing armed forces and conventional weapons in Europe.

We consider it logical and essential that all European states, including neutral and nonaligned countries, should participate in the solution of these issues.

In our opinion, it would also be expedient to hold consultations with NATO countries. Bilateral and multilateral contacts not only between the states of the Warsaw Pact and NATO, but also with neutral and nonaligned countries, could help to reach mutual understanding.

However, the Vienna meeting is the main field of activity. Only this meeting is authorized to approve the decision on complementing the mandate of the Stockhom conference. Collective, united work of all 35 participants could make this possible.

[Horeni] The opinion is often expressed in the West that the question of medium-range missiles should be taken out of the Reykjavik "package," What do you think about this?

[Shevardnadze] I would say that such words are irresponsible and, to use stronger terms, I would even say immoral.

There is so much talk about the package that the meaning of this word has been rather obscured.

Let us thus make the meaning clear. A comprehensive solution for virtually all types of nuclear weapons was found at the meeting in Reykjavik, and it is this comprehensive solution that makes up the so-called package. We, for our part, have defined it as a package of agreements, compromises, and mutual concessions. On some points the two sides reached complete agreement and on some points we met our partners halfway. In doing so, we did not stop short of concessions. One of them, a concession of principled importance, was made by us in the question of British and French missiles. We said: Well, we agree that these weapons will not be included in the liquidation of American and Soviet medium-range missiles in the interest of achieving the main goal -- the preservation of the ABM treaty and the prevention of the militarization of space. Even though it is clear to everyone where the British and French missiles have their targets, we accepted this risk in the interest of that goal.

He who suggests that we "unpack" the Reykjavik package is at loggerheads with logic and conscience.

After all, it is not so much a question of medium-range missiles, although this example clearly shows the illogical conduct of some Western statesmen. Once they claimed that they could not wait to see the happy day when medium-range missiles will disappear from Europe, and now when this could become reality, they have started to "enwrap" it in a number of additional demands.

However, I respect that the package contains something much more important than the question of medium-range missiles. If we agreed with the opening of one part of the contents of the package, we would legalize space weapons and give our consent to their deployment. The problem of the Reykjavik package contains a response to the question of whether to agree with the militarization of space. To liquidate the only obstacle to space weapons -- the anti-ballistic missile treaty? Our answer is a clear no. That is a matter of principle, honor, and conscience.

[Horeni] How do you assess the international situation in the wake of the Soviet-American talks in Reykjavik and what, in your opinion, are the prospects for the further development of relations between the USSR and the United States during Reagan's presidency?

[Shevardnadze] Despite all the complications thus far and, I would say, differences in the internal charge [rozdilnost vnitrniho naboje], there has been a change in the situation. Reykjavik has left its mark. It was a good spur to the formation of a broad global consensus in support of the radical and simultaneously carefully thought-out and balanced proposals of the Soviet Union for reducing and liquidating nuclear weapons.

The strip of pure water cleared by the Reykjavik "icebreaker" in the ice remains pure and we will not permit the formation of another layer of ice on it. This strip washes away all kinds of pretexts, with the help of which the United Staes and NATO try to block all disarmament proposals. The innovative proposals and bold actions of the fraternal socialist countries in all directions, including questions of verification, settlement of regional conflicts, or social and humanitarian cooperation, widen the canals leading to the establishment of a comprehensive system of international security.

As far as the prospects for the development of Soviet-American relations are concerned, we see them in the general international context of renewal and do not assign them to any protected or "icy" area. I think that it is not necessary to explain why the efforts to proceed in this direction are particularly uneasy. However, each constructive step taken in this area is of exceptional importance for the cause of peace and disarmament.

It so far has been hardly possible to point to some hopeful features in the stand of the U.S. Administration -- rather on the contrary. Concepts of policy from the position of strength leading to a blind alley, which have been confirmed by the President in his State of the Union message, the allocation of new funds for the program of nuclear rearmament and space militarization of the United States, as well as the continuing U.S. retreat from fundamental Soviet-American agreements -- all this gives no reason for great optimism. Hopes are naturally undermined by the latest nuclear explosion carried out by the United States these days. We regard it as another overt challenge to mankind, as an act of disregard for its fundamental interests.

This explosion has made the already gloomy background even darker.

Nevertheless, we have not ceased to seek roads toward agreement. At the Geneva meeting, we have raised the level of the leadership of our delegation; better use is made of the timetable on our proposal; and the method of negotiations has been intensified. Work continues. We would not like to believe that the present U.S. Administration has already taken the final choice and that it is ready to allow the collapse of the whole perspective of an agreement with the Soviet Union and to permit the remaining 2 years to be wasted on the same dangerous rush for the vision of military supremacy. In principle, we have not lost the hope for the successful conclusion of the Reykjavik talks with the incumbent U.S. leadership. I believe that it is also in its interests to get to the final stretch of the incumbent President's term of office with a positive score.

We continue to want the Soviet-American dialogue to be constructive and wish as ever that every effort be made so that the historic "window" of opportunities half-opened in Reykjavik may not be slammed.

SHEVARDNADZE ON LONG-TERM COOPERATION WITH CSSR

LD052101 Prague Television Service in Czech 1830 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Interview with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze by unidentified questioners; 5 February in Prague -- recorded; Shevardnadze speaking in Russian with Czech translation]

[Text] [Shevardnadze] We often meet with our Czechoslovak friends, my colleagues, but if I am to speak about official visits, then there has not been an official visit by a minister of foreign affairs in the last 12 years. This is why we gave considerable importance to the visit. The meetings were very comprehensive and interesting. In particular I would like to point out and emphasize the importance of the talk with Comrade Gustav Husak that took place today. I would say that it was a very deep, serious conversation about the while complex of Czechoslovak-Soviet cooperation, and questions of international situation also were discussed. This conversation with Comrade Gustav Husak made a great impression on me.

I have just ended a meeting with Comrade Strougal. We mainly discussed questions of perfecting economic cooperation, trade cooperation, scientific and technical cooperation and so on.

Yesterday and today we had talks with Comrade Chnoupek, my very good friend. As always, he talks took place in an atmosphere of friendship, fraternity and absolute mutual understanding. I think that we enriched one another considerably. We exchanged experiences and set the respective orientation points for the future.

As far as Soviet-Czechoslovak cooperation is concerned, I think that we have great experiences. This is very important political capital which belongs to a whole number of generations, but we are of the opinion that now, in this stage, a new section begins, so to speak, in Soviet-Czechoslovak relations. I am thinking of long-term programs which were formulated in the area of economic, scientific and technical cooperation, in the area of culture, contacts in the spiritual sphere. These programs cover the whole period up to the end of this century. To a considerable extent, today we are laying the foundations of future relations, even with an outlook for the next millenium. From this comes the responsibility of both Soviet organizations and the relevant Czechoslovak organs, ministries and sectors.

This stage Soviet-Czechoslovak relations includes tens, hundreds and thousands of organizations. Towns, districts, people -- hundreds of thousands, millions of people -- are taking part in this program. Today I think a new stage in Soviet-Czechoslovak relations is beginning, a qualitatively new stage.

With the feeling of this responsibility toward our nations, toward the whole socialist community, we discussed all viewpoints of our cooperation. There are reserves here, considerable reserves. We must prove that we can cooperate while looking toward the final results, highly effectively, without condition, on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

[Question] Comrade minister, you said yesterday at the gala lunch that restructuring in the USSR will have influence in the future on the reinforcement of security in the world. Could you say something more about it and at the same time comment on those voices that can be now heard in the West in connection with restructuring?

[Shevardnadze] If I speak about restructuring in detail, your videotapes would not be enough to record it all. To say it directly, we in the USSR now, the Communists, the nonparty members, the entire society, are full of these concerns -- concerns for restructuring our society. What is most important; what is the main, typical feature, the key task of restructuring? It is a speedy advancement of our society, and primarily, of our economy. It is the economy that forms, so to speak, the base for everything else, for all other spheres. A lot has been done in this direction.

People frequently ask how long this restructuring will last, now they are to understand it, what it actually is, what sort of phenomenon it is. I even think that it is right to say that restructuring [perestroyka] has become an international term. Restructuring, openness [glasnosty] -- and now, after the January Plenum there is a new term "democratization." The word democracy is an international term but its sound has a different effect. In fact, restructuring is primarily an acceleration of the social-economic advancement of socialist society. Restructuring is a high efficiency of work of every man. It is the best work results, of very high quality, of collectives and every man.

Restructuring is the confirmation of principles of socialist self-management. It is financial autonomy [khozraschet], self-financing, in terms of conditions of enterprises, kolkhozes, sovkhozes and so on. It is high level of public information. It is criticism and self-criticism. Society will not progress without it. It is truthfulness, openness of society. These principles are being confirmed and are becoming a part of social-political life of Soviet society. Restructuring is a deep, I would slay, the deepest democratization of social, political and economic life. As we understand it, restructuring is initiative; it is a creative and innovative approach, which we now support in our society in every possible way, material and ethical.

[Shevardnadze] Finally, restructuring is organization and discipline, because socialist democracy naturally has a prerequisite of organization, a higher form of organization, and considerable discipline and efficiency. I would just say, I would state, these are the components which form this process, a complicated, difficult but very necessary process of restructuring.

If someone asks: What about international affairs? Restructuring also is taking place in this area. There are very many interesting and, I would say, revolutionary proposals which are coming into being in our community. Here I mean the socialist community, the Warsaw Treaty member-states and other states. I can say that in a certain sense there is a revolution in political thinking taking place. Where does this revolution lie, with what is it linked? These are thoughts and ideas about a nuclear-free world, about a world without chemical weapons and without other weapons of mass destruction. It is peace without war, as was said during the meeting between Comrade Gorbachev and the Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. It is the liquidation of nuclear weapons and so on and so forth. There are very many of these initiatives; they are very important, and they are gaining continually greater support from the world public.

I would say that the West, Western officials, need such a revolution. I would say this. In the West, just as with us, interesting processes are taking place in industry and in production. Yes, a technological revolution is taking place there. It would be good if a revolution similar to the technological revolution would take place in political thinking.

[Question] Thank you, Comrade minister. Allow me one final question. We live here in the center of Europe and naturally events in the whole of Europe, the all-European process are followed here very carefully. Last year there were certain positive shifts; I am thinking of the Stockholm Conference. Do you think there are possibilities for positive shifts, for progress on the subject of the initiatives of Warsaw Treaty member-states made in Budapest?

[Shevardnadze] The prospects are good. I think that on a collective basis, thanks to collective work, we countries of the socialist community, Warsaw Treaty member-countries, formulated a good realistic program for limiting conventional weapons and armed forces on our continent. I am thinking of Europe. It is known that the Budapest appeal met with considerable support from the widest strata of European inhabitants, and not only European. It is also known that all these problems surrounding the limitation and liquidation of individual types of weapons are being discussed at the moment at the Vienna meeting. Discussions are taking place. The question of where, at which forum, the concrete, so to speak, relative numbers of limitation of armed forces and arms should be treated, is being solved. It is known that we are in favor of a continuation of dialogue on all these acute problems at the Stockholm conference or, as we say, at Stockholm No 2. This seems to us to be the most appropriate and most suitable forum for solving these pressing problems.

We are in favor of solving the problems of disarmament and limitation of armed forces and arms in Europe within the framework of the all-European process. We are in favor of all states of Europe having as active a share as possible, including neutral and nonaligned states, in solving these questions. We are also in favor of a direct dialogue between NATO and the Warsaw Treaty.

You know, I am not saying anything new. It is a known fact that we were not the first from the viewpoint of creating a military block. Today we consider it possible to dissolve military blocks. Even today we speak in favor of direct dialogue. We have proposed a meeting on the level of commanders in chief. I am thinking of Comrade Kulikov and General Rogers. We proposed direct contacts between working groups of NATO and the Warsaw Treaty. Unfortunately, our partners reacted negatively to this appeal. We proposed a meeting of general secretaries of our Warsaw Treaty Organization and NATO, Mr Carrington and Comrade Krolikowski. This proposal was rejected. Why do I speak about this? I think that an objective person who follows everything that takes place in Europe and in the whole world can see that the words and deeds of the socialist countries and the socialist community coincide. We are in favor of concrete solutions and concrete courageous steps in disarmament and introducing the principles of trust in Europe, including military trust.

[Question] Comrade Minister, thank you for your replies.

[Shevardnadze] In the end I would like to thank sincerely the chief officials of the fraternal CSSR for their warm welcome and hospitality, and I wish the people of the CSSR, Czechs and Slovaks, all who live in this beautiful country, all the best and convey a greeting from Comrade Gorbachev, from the Soviet leadership and from all Soviet people. I wish you much success.

POLISH FOREIGN MINISTER ORZECHOWSKI VISITS 9 FEB

PM111011 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 4

["On a Working Visit"]

[Text] M. Orzechowski, member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo, and minister of foreign affairs of the Polish People's Republic, was in the Soviet Union 9 February 1987 on a working visit.

A conversation took place between E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and USSR minister of foreign affairs, and M. Orzechowski, which passed in a friendly atmosphere characteristic of Soviet-Polish relations.

The ministers exchanged information on the fulfullment of the tasks for speeding up the socioeconomic development of the USSR and the PPR in light of the directives of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 10th PZPR Congress. The information from E.A. Shevardnadze on the results of the January (1987) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee was received with great interest by M. Orzechowski, who, on behalf of the leadership of the PZPR and the Polish Government, expressed full support for the efforts and measures being taken in the USSR to restructure all spheres of life. A report by M. Orzechowski about successes in implementing the decisions of the 10th PZPR Congress, which mapped out a stage-by-stage advancement in all spheres of building socialist Poland, was received with satisfaction.

Mutual satisfaction was expressed over the dynamic development of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Polish People's Republic, and the particular significance of the regular meetings and conversations between M.S. Gorbachev and W. Jaruzelski was emphasized.

The primary importance of the November (1986) working meeting of the leaders of the fraternal parties of the socialist CEMA member-states to the socialist community was noted. The ministers expressed their conviction that the transition to new progressive forms of cooperation, the development of direct production ties, the creation of joint economic organizations and scientific collectives, the implementation of the comprehensive program of scientific-technical progress of the CEMA member-states, and the long-term program of the development of economic and scientific-technical cooperation between the USSR and the PPR for the period up to the year 2000 would ensure the further raising of the effectiveness of Soviet-Polish economic interaction.

It particularly was stressed that the persevering tension in international affairs, caused by the NATO block's and U.S. militarist forces' course of confrontation, the intensification of the nuclear and conventional arms race and Washington's actions to extend it into outer space run counter to the interests of all countries and peoples. In this regard, it was noted that the energetic efforts being made by the socialist states and all peace-loving forces, directed at lowering the level of military confrontation, are having an increasingly beneficial effect on the political climate in Europe and throughout the world. A realistic possibility for realizing a decisive turn for the better in internal affairs and saving mankind from the threat of universal nuclear catastrophe is offered by the program for the total elimination of nuclear and other forms of mass-destruction weapons by the end of the century, as put forward in the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee General Secretary, on 15 January 1986, and further developed in the Soviet proposals in Reykjavik. [paragraph continues]

At this moment, a sure path toward a nuclear-free world is being blocked by U.S. "Star Wars" plans that aim at attaining military superiority and undermining strategic stability in the world.

The ministers view the latest nuclear explosion carried out by the United States on 3 February of this year as an open challenge to the world community. M. Orzechowski highly appraised the readiness of the Soviet side to return to the moratorium on nuclear explosions should the United States end its own nuclear tests.

Particular attention was paid to the situation in Europe and the advancement of the Budapest program of the Warsaw Pact member-states for a radical reduction in the armed forces and conventional armaments, reducing the military confrontation, and strengthening security on the continent. The determination to strive for an immediate discussion of the practical measures to implement this program was reaffirmed.

The Soviet Union and the Polish People's Republic will apply their utmost efforts for the further development in all directions of the pan-European process and for the successful conclusion of the Vienna meeting of CSCE participant states on the basis of a constructive and nonconfrontational approach to the issues being discussed there. The Soviet side supports the Polish People's Republic's proposals submitted at Vienna for supplementing the mandate of the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe, as well as for holding a meeting in Warsaw of representatives of the CSCE countries on the 50th anniversary of the start of World War II. The Polish side supports the USSR's initiative for convening a broadly representative conference on humanitarian questions in Moscow.

Both sides confirmed the well-known position of the Governments of the USSR and the PPR regarding the fact that an essential condition for preserving a stable peace in Europe is the inviolability of the territorial-political realities based upon the Yalta and Potsdam accords, which were fixed in treaties between the socialist states and the FRG and also in the Final Act of the CSCE.

The ministers stressed that any attempts by revanchist forces, first and foremost in the Federal Republic of Germany, to subject to doubt the international legal foundations of the existing status quo in Europe, are impermissible. They drew attention to the dangerous tendencies of an arbitrary interpretation and weakening of the principles of the Helsinki Final Act, and the striving by certain circles in the FRG to enlist support for this position from other states. All of this goes against the vital interests of peace and stability. Such attempts on the foundations of security in Europe will invariably be given a most decisive rebuff.

Both sides noted the United Nation's great responsibility in maintaining peace and security on all continents and the particular importance in this regard of the implementation of the socialist countries' initiative for the creation of an all-embracing system of international peace and security, which was approved by the 41st session of the UN General Assembly.

The further strengthening of the unity and cohesion of the states of the socialist community and the consolidation of the Warsaw Pact organization, the participants in the talks emphasized, are important factors in maintaining peace, stability, and security in Europe and throughout the world.

Orzechowski Departs

LD092230 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2159 GMT 9 Feb 87

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Marian Orzechowski, member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo and PPR Foreign Minister, who has been in our country on a working visit, left Moscow for home today.

RYZHKOV RECEIVES ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW

AU062204 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1923 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow, AGERPRES, 6/2/1987 — Romania's ambassador to Moscow Ion M. Nicolae was received on February 6 by N.I. Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the CPSU, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

During the talk reference was made to the ascending course of Romanian-Soviet friendly and cooperative ties, and questions were approached related to their further development and diversification in keeping with summit understandings and in the interests of the peoples in the two countries.

During the interview messages of salute were exchanged between the general secretary of the CC of the CPSU, Mikhail Gorbachev, and the RCP and Romanian state leader, Nicolae Ceausescu.

NIKONOV, RCP'S BARBULESCU VIEW AGRICULTURAL TIES

AU112102 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 2032 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 11/2/1987 — Wednesday Vasile Barbulescu, secretary of the CC of the RCP, met V.P. Nikonov, secretary of the CC of the CPSU, in Moscow. On the occasion the sides exchanged information on the development of the agricultural and food sectors in Romania and the USSR. At the same time they looked into ways and means to intensify the bilateral economic, technical and scientific collaboration and cooperation. In this respect they pointed out the interest in reaching agreements regarding concrete actions of collaboration particularly in point of producing seeds, improving the range of agricultural machines as well as in conducting joint research in the fields of biotechnology and genetic engineering, as well as in other domains of joint interest.

ROMANIAN FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION MARKS TREATY

PM101125 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Feb 87 p 5

[TASS report under general heading: "Official Reports"]

[Text] A delegation from the Romanian-Soviet friendship society headed by (P. Brynkush), member of the bureau of the society's leading council and director of the Romanian State Opera, was in the Soviet Union 1 through 6 February at the invitation of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries.

The delegation took part in events held in Moscow and Leningrad to mark the 39th anniversary of the signing of the treaty on friendship, cooperation, and mutual aid between the USSR and Romania.

SAKHAROV ACCEPTS GREENS INVITATION TO VISIT FRG

LD111546 Hamburg DPA in German 1146 GMT 15 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow (DPA) — On Wednesday, Petra Kelly, the Greens Bundestag deputy, officially invited Andrey Sakharov, the Soviet civil rights campaigner, to visit the Federal Republic. On behalf of the Greens Bundestag group, Mrs Kelly told Sakharov that he could come to the Federal Republic any time he wished. Sakharov accepted the invitation, but at the same time expressed the fear that he would not be permitted to travel abroad. "Only if it is useful to them will they permit me a trip," he said.

Mrs Kelly and former Bundeswehr General Gerd Bastian, who are both taking part in the international peace congress planned for this weekend, spoke for more than 2 hours with the critic of the regime. Sakharov stated that he would probably be giving a lecture on each of the 3 days at the forthcoming congress. During the conference, at which a free exchange of opinions without a fixed list of speakers should be possible, he would take part in the academics' forum. He would say nothing about the topics of his lectures.

FRG BANK DIRECTOR GRANTED MEETING WITH ANTONOV

PM091301 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] On 6 February A.K. Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the Soviet section of the USSR and FRG Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation, received W. Roeller, chairman of the board of Dresdner Bank, at the latter's request. Yu. A. Ivanov, chairman of the USSR Foreign Trade Bank, and (A. Arno), FRG charge d'affaires ad interim to the USSR, took part in the talk.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION COMMISSION OPENS IN HELSINKI

LD091751 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1611 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Text] Helsinki, 9 Feb (TASS) — The outcome of Soviet-Finnish trade in 1986 and the prospects for its expansion in the period 1987-90; cooperation in the field of the petrochemical, petroleum refining, and gas industry and a number of other branches of production; as well as discussion of the new forms of cooperation in the framework of the creation of joint enterprises and the realization of projects on a compensatory basis — these are the main themes of the 32d session of the Soviet-Finnish standing intergovernmental Commission on Economic Cooperation that opened here today. The participants in the session received the greetings of N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, to Kalevi Sorsa, prime minister of the Republic of Finland, with great interest.

Ryzhkov Message to Sorsa

PM101253 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 1

[N. Ryzhkov message to Finnish Premier Sorsa on 20th anniversary of Soviet-Finnish Economic Cooperation Commission]

[Text] To Mr Kalevi Sorsa, prime minister of the Republic of Finland.

On the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the permanent intergovernmental Soviet-Finnish Commission for Economic Cooperation, I send greetings to you, the chairman of the Finnish section of the commission, and all the participants in the commission's latest session, which is under way in Helsinki.

During the years of its existence, the commission has made a substantial contribution to the expansion of Soviet-Finnish trade; it has acted more than once as the initiator of many useful ventures in our economc relations and has won recognition as the coordinator of these relations.

Thanks to the efforts of both sides, economic cooperation between our countries has become an important factor for trust and good-neighborliness. Its successes over the past 20 years are well known and demonstrate the advantages of the policy of peaceful coexistence and our states' loyalty to the 1948 Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance. All this creates mutual confidence in the stability and future prospects of Soviet-Finnish relations.

The recent intensive quest for the most promising avenues and forms of economic ties and the consolidation of political contacts are favoring the development of qualitatively new trends in Soviet-Finnish cooperation. These trends were given an important impetus as a result of the meeting between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and President M. Koivisto in the fall of 1985, and they take on a particular importance in the jubilee year of the Great October Socialist Revolution and of Finland's state independence.

In the course of the restructuring of the various aspects of social life in the Soviet Union, much attention is also being paid to the improvement of foreign economic activities. Our task is to enhance their efficiency through the deepening of Soviet participation in the international division of labor by means of the development of production sharing, the creation on Soviet territory of joint enterprises, and the establishment of direct ties with manufacturers in other countries. In embarking on this path, we will unswervingly adhere to the principles of equality and mutual advantage.

Our main aim is the creation of peace for the sake of life and progress. The widely known Soviet initiatives on the vitally important questions of ensuring international security and forestalling a nuclear catastrophe are geared to this very aim. We note with satisfaction that Soviet-Finnish cooperation has always been and remains a factor for peace and detente.

I wish the permanent intergovernmental commission much success in the implementation of Soviet-Finnish accords in the trade and economic sphere and in the active quest for and utilization of everything that is new and progressive in the interests of strengthening fruitful ties and good-neighborliness between the Soviet Union and Finland.

N. Ryzhkov, Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Additional Reportage

For additional reportage on the economic cooperation talks held in Helsinki between the Soviet delegation, led by Vladimir Kamentsev, and the Finnish delegation, led by Finnish Prime Minister Kalevi Sorsa, see the Nordic Affairs section of the 10 February Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

CPSU PLENUM PARTICIPANTS MEET AUSTRIA'S VRANITZKY

PM061243 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Reception for Plenum Participants"]

[Text] Vienna, 2 Feb -- Austrian Federal Chancellor F. Vranitzky today received a group of CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum participants who are in Vienna: A.G. Kovalev, USSR first deputy foreign minister; N.V. Gellert, machine operator and USSR Supreme Soviet deputy; B.V. Kravtsov, USSR minister of justice; and Academician Ye. M. Primakov, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of World Economics and International Relations.

During the conversation, which proceeded in a businesslike, friendly atmosphere, the head of the Austrian Government showed great interest in the plenum decisions and in the report and closing speech by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The Soviet representatives gave corresponding explanations.

The chancellor spoke in favor of the further constructive development of Soviet-Austrian cooperation, increased political dialogue and contacts between the two countries, and the renewal of international relations in the interests of disarmament and peace.

SUPREME SOVIET TALKS WITH UK MP'S STRESS TIES

PM091627 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Meetings in Britain"]

[Text] London, 5 Feb — Conversations have been held in the British Parliament between a delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet Foreign Affairs Commissions and members of the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee.

The Soviet delegation is in London at the invitation of the Foreign Affairs Committee. The delegation is led by V.V. Zagladin, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union Foreign Affairs Commission. The delegation includes deputies T.V. Gamkrelidze, N.I. Popov, and V.I. Fedosov. L.M. Zamyatin, USSR ambassador to Britain, took part in the conversations.

The British parliamentarians showed great interest in the results of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum and in the Soviet state's peace initiatives. The decisions adopted by the January plenum were expounded in detail to the British parliamentarians and the far-reaching nature and revolutionary scope of the transformations taking place in every sphere of Soviet society were explained to them. The close connection between the Soviet people's creative plans to speed up the USSR's socioeconomic development and the Soviet Union's peace-loving efforts in the international arena was emphasized.

There was a broad and comprehensive exchange of opinions during the conversations on topical problems of international politics -- primarily nuclear disarmament -- and also on issues relating to the development of bilateral relations in various spheres.

Both sides expressed willingness to promote the further expansion of contacts between the two countries at parliamentary level to strengthen trust and mutual understanding between the peoples of the USSR and Britain.

P. Thomas, member of the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee, who chaired the meeting, noted that "the talks have provided a useful new opportunity for a frank exchange of opinions at the parliamentary level on problems of mutual interest to the British and Soviet peoples."

The two countries' parliamentary representatives examined regional issues, including Afghanistan, the Near East, the Pacific region, and Southeast Asia, and discussed issues relating to development of the CSCE process, including human rights.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Foreign Affairs Commissions delegation visited the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and had a conversation with T. Eggar, parliamentary under secretary of state. On the same day, the head of the Soviet delegation had a meeting with G. Howe, British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs.

The head of the USSR Supreme Soviet Foreign Affairs Commissions delegation had a meeting in the British Parliament with N. Kinnock, leader of the Labor Party, and D. Healey, Labor's "shadow" foreign minister.

There was a mutually useful exchange of opinions on questions concerning the international situation and Soviet-British relations. In the course of the conversation, the Labor Party leaders were informed of the results of the January CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the development of the restructuring process in the Soviet Union.

Zagladin on Aims, Achievements

PM091207 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Dispatch by IZVESTIYA correspondent A. Krivopalov and TASS correspondent N. Pakhomov: "Useful Visit"]

[Text] London, 7 February -- The visit to Britain of the delegation from the USSR Supreme Soviet Foreign Affairs Commissions, headed by V.V. Zagladin, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet's Soviet of the Union Foreign Affairs Commission, which has been in London at the invitation of the British Parliament's House of Commons foreign affairs committee, has ended. The delegation also included deputies T.V. Gamkrelidze, N.I. Popov, and V.I. Fedosov.

Summing up the results of the visit, V.V. Zagladin, head of the delegation of Soviet parliamentarians, said in an interview with your correspondents:

Our delegation spent a week in Britain. It was a very strenuous and busy week. We had discussions with parliamentarians, we met with foreign secretary G. Howe and the leaders of a number of other ministries and departments, and we visited Scotland. Our general idea was to help the implementation of the CPSU's foreign policy course -- the course toward halting confrontation and the arms race, the course toward disarmament and the improvement of relations between countries. Of course, inasmuch as it was a visit to Britain, there was talk of implementing or helping to implement the ideas of European policy formulated at the 27th CPSU Congress. What can be said of our impressions and of the results of the visit?

First, we noted among British parliamentarians, and not just parliamentarians, an unfeigned interest in the development of relations with the Soviet Union and in dialogue with our country.

Second, we did not have common or similar positions on all questions, but if we compare our present conversations with those of the past, there were, nonetheless, more points of contact. Our British interlocutors frankly said that the Soviet leadership's foreign policy is helping to increase the number of common or similar positions. This shows that the USSR's vigorous, active policy is now indeed an important factor of world development and is making a useful contribution to it.

Third, there was, of course, a discussion of bilateral relations. Mrs Thatcher is to visit the Soviet Union. People here in Britain obviously are preparing for the visit. We gave an account of our concepts, which are that this visit should be a visit filled with specific results, a visit leading not only to an improvement in bilateral relations in various spheres, but also to the consolidation of our countries' collaboration in the field of international politics and in the solution of the main problems of the present day. The potential which Britain possesses is considerable, and we are convinced that it is still making far from full use of this potential. We realize that Britain, as a NATO member, has certain common positions with other countries. But even within the framework of each alliance, we believe that each state also has its own interests and positions. We hope that our British interlocutors understood our concern correctly. Of course, the future will show what the visit will give. The talks held here were probably useful from that point of view.

I should like to stress one more aspect. The parliamentarians, ministers, and representatives of the Scottish public with whom we met displayed very great interest in what is now happening in our country. That is worthy of note. We were asked masses of questions about the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum. Of course, the British press has its own ideas about openness and it does not publish the full texts of our speeches and documents, but it nonetheless does provide quite a lot of information. There are evidently other sources as well, because our mass media are also at work.

In any event, the talks showed that people are interested not only in posing questions in a general way, but also in the details, in our plans, in what already has been done. This was on the one hand very pleasant and we were pleased to explain and describe. But, on the other hand, we felt once again the responsibility that rests with our people and our country -- responsibility primarily to ourselves and to our future and a new responsibility to the international community, because our restructuring is indeed influencing the world, and influencing it positively.

Many representatives of the country's public said frankly that they are counting on an improvement in the world climate as a result of the Soviet Union's advance. In other cases such viewpoints could not be discerned, but interest was nevertheless obvious. The question is emerging: What will this give the West, what will it give Britain, and what can be expected of the future? The work of our people, the work of our party, the work of the January Plenum which, as I have already said, have been greeted with great interest here and are regarded as events of worldwide importance. And since that is so, I repeat once again: The responsibility of each one of us for the implementation of these decisions is the main thing which we must all understand and, as they say, adopt for execution.

U.S. BLAMED FOR STALLED FRG-PORTUGAL BASE TALKS

LD100343 Moscow in Portuguese to Portugal 2100 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Commentary by Yuriy Konstantinov]

[Text] The Portuguese Government continues to hold out in the talks over the Bundeswehr's use of the airbase in Beja. This agreement runs out on the 30 June 1987 and all the attempts by the West German side to renew it as soon as possible have so far met with tenacious resistence from the Portuguese Government. In this regard, Yuri Konstantinov writes the following:

How can the surprising persistence of the center-right government be explained? It is not the case that West Germany pays Lisbon DM45 million annually for the training flights and target practice carried out by Bundeswehr pilots? Is it not the case that the West German Government participates in the construction of three frigates of the Meko 200 type for the Portuguese Navy? Why is it then that so much ingratitude is shown toward the Bonn partner?

The case, so to speak, is very simple. It is the Pentagon, who for very long has been nurturing designs on the Beja base and has been planning to use it for its Rapid Deployment Forces. In short, the Pentagon wants to create in mainland Portugal a second base of the Lajes type which will be outside the control of the Portuguese authorities.

A few days ago in the United States a decision was made to send to Portugal a large shipment of arms, a part of which, according to O DIARIO, is destined for the Baja base where there are already U.S. warehouses and military equipment. Therefore, the U.S. take over of the base continues.

Consequently, the Pentagon, taking the line that might is right, wants to throw the Bundeswehr pilots out of the Beja base.

Naturally, Bonn is insisting with its plans, reminding Washington of the NATO Charter and of the principles of solidarity.

As for Sao Bento Palace, all signs are that it means to haggle, to raise the price, although it realizes that at the end of the day it will give in to the demands of those who hold sway in NATO. Of course, nobody pays heed to the interests of the security of Portugal itself, a country with foreign bases in its territory, Yuriy Konstantinov writes in conclusion.

REPORTAGE ON AL-BID, DELEGATION VISIT TO MOSCOW

Greeted at Airport

EA101446 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Text] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee, and the high-level party and government delegation accompanying him, arrived in Moscow this afternoon on an official friendly visit to the USSR at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government. The secretary general and his delegation were received at the airport by Comrades Yegor Ligachev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo and Soviet Foreign Minister: Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; several other officials and Brother Ahmad 'Abdallah 'Abd al-Ilah, member of the Central Committee and our ambassador to the USSR, and the embassy staff.

In a press statement upon his arrival, the secretary general expressed the happiness of our party and people over this visit. It will give an oppotunity to meet and hold discussions with the Soviet leadership on several issues of bilateral cooperation in various areas and ways of consolidating and expanding the warm relations between the two parties and countries based on the friendship and cooperation Treaty of 1976, in addition to discussing developments in the Arab and international arenas. He said: We are confident that this visit will open up vast horizons in the development of Yemeni-Soviet friendship.

It will contribute to continuing the USSR's firm support based on the unity of our principles and objectives, based on socialism and proletarian internationalism. The secretary general expressed his gratification and appreciation for the continuing development of relations between the two parties and peoples and for the support extended by the USSR to our party's and people's struggle on the path to socialism. He emphasized our country's complete determination to continue developing the militant relations between the PDRY and USSR which serve our principles and common objectives.

Lays Wreath at Mausoleum

LD101128 Moscow Domestic Servic in Russian 1000 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Members of the party and state delegation from the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, led by Al-Bid, visited the Vladimir Ilich Lenin Mausoleum today and laid a wreath. A wreath was also laid on the grave of the unknown soldier near the Kremlin wall. Comrade Dobrynin and other official personages were with the delegation.

Gorbachev Receives Al-bid

PM121000 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Feb 87 First Edition p 1

["M.S. Gorbachev's Meeting With 'Ali Salim al-Bid"]

[Text] TASS — Mikhail Gorbachev met with 'Ali Salim al-Bid, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party, in the Kremlin 10 February.

They held comradely, frank talks on a wide range of matters of principle and topical political issues.

Mikhail Gorbachev and 'Ali Salim al-Bid shared with each other their views on the results of work by their parties in the past year.

Mikhail Gorbachev spoke of the significance of the new stage that has opened in the development of our revolution to both the Soviet Union and socialism and to the world as a whole.

'Ali Salim al-Bid spoke of the work done in democratic Yemen to overcome the consequences of the events of January 1986.

The talks dealt with the experience of revolutionary struggle, including both negative and positive experience, the general principles of revolution and mostly with the fact that a correct policy is a policy that takes careful account of the realities, the country's economic potentialities, the level of historical development of its society, the political awareness and cultural standards of the people, their traditions and distinctive features, and, of course, the international position of the state.

No revolution is immune against the striving of the vanguard to skip inevitable stages. This can be prevented only if the final goal is set and a realistic policy is conducted. The basic flaw of all revolutions was that they advanced tasks that could not be fulfilled at a given moment, which inevitably led to taking premature steps in practical work, to discrepancy between words and actions.

Sharing the experience of reorganization in the USSR, Mikhail Gorbachev emphasized that strict self-criticism, exacting analysis of the past assume political significance when they go hand-in-hand with a positive program which the people understand.

During the conversation, special attention was given to the question of unity of the ruling party. Mikhail Gorbachev spoke with respect about a difficult and extremely responsible mission of the present leadership of democratic Yemen which requires resolve and caution, principledness and flexibility, exactingness and the ability to make compromise. What is now required above all in order to preserve the revolution, deepen and advance it is stability of the leadership and subjugating its entire activity to the solution of the main, national tasks. Only in this way can society be rallied and the country taken toward goals meeting the interests of the entire people.

The interlocutors exchanged opinions on the state of relations of the PDRY with its neighbors and on the situation in the Middle East, on the possibilities and prospects of settling the crisis, on the importance of Arab unity, a lack of which, and moreover, involvement of Arabs in various conflicts, is one of the main reasons why the Middle East problem as a whole persists and remains acute. It was emphasized particularly that there can be no settlement if the question of the self-determination of the Palestinian people is ignored.

The main questions of bilateral relations were discussed. They are considered in all their aspects and in detail at the talks between the delegations of the PDRY and the USSR.

The conversation passed in the atmosphere of friendly mutual understanding. It confirmed the community of approaches to all questions discussed. Member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee Muhammad Said 'Abdallah took part in the conversation.

Moscow Radio Comments

LD111642 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow has been the scene of talks between the Soviet Union and South Yemen. The head of the party and government delegation from South Yemen, 'Ali Salim al-Bid was received by the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. Yuriy Solton comments:

The talks reaffirmed mutual striving to promote in every way possible bilateral relations based on the treaty of friendship and cooperation. The leaders of South Yemen highly assessed the Soviet plan for scrapping all nuclear weapons before the end of the century and the principles stand taken by the USSR in relations with developing nations. With reference to this stand, Mikhail Gorbachev has said that his country recognizes the right of every nation to choose its social and poltical development independently. This means that every country has the right to dispose of its natural resources on its own and to rely on international support if its sovereignty and vital interests are endangered.

In the meantime there are many examples of infringements on the sovereignty of developing nations. Tension is mounting in the eastern Mediterranean and in the Persian Gulf area, where the United States is massing its warships with thousands of marines on board, are a witness of that. Washington is openly threatening to use force against the Arab countries, primarily against Lebanon, to punish them for criminally reckless actions launched by a handful of extremists who are holding four Americans as hostages. The Soviet Union condemns terrorism resolutely and unconditionally as a truly horrible evil and calamity of our times. However those (who?) want to root it out by means of aggression, as the United States sought to do in Libya, commit [an] even greater crime because they victimise innocent people and grossly trample on national sovereignty, on human morality and justice. Terrorism practiced on a government level is the worst of crimes, particularly as Washington is not so much concerned over the destiny of United States citizens.

There are many examples to prove that on the pretext of struggle against terrorism the United States seeks to press its imperialist standards on other countries by force. This is another expression of its policy of neoglobalism whose goal is to subjugate other nations. As for the Soviet Union, it condemns this policy and resolutely sides with the countries opposing it. This was declared in the course of talks held in Moscow between the Soviet Union and South Yemen.

Hold Kremlin Talks

PM121405 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Feb 1987 First Edition pp 1, 4

[Text] Talks took place in the Kremlin on 10 February between the party and the government delegations of the USSR and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY].

On the Soviet side, the talks were conducted by Ye. K. Ligachev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR minister of foreign affairs; and A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

On the South Yemeni side were A.S. al-Bid, general secretary of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee; M.S. 'Abdallah, member of the YSP Central Committee Politburo, YSP Central Committee secretary for foreign matters; A.A. al-Dali, member of the YSP Central Committee Politburo, PDRY minister of foreign affairs.

Taking part in the talks from the Soviet side were Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR first deputy defense minister, chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff; A.I. Rachkov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR ambassador to the PDRY, and other official persons.

Taking part on the South Yemeni side were S.A.B. ibn Husaynun, member of the YSP Central Committee, deputy prime minister and PDRY minister of energy and minerals; H.G. Tahir, member of the YSP Central Committee, first deputy minister of defense and chief of the General Staff of the PDRY Armed Forces; M.A. Jirghum, PDRY minister of culture and information; F. ibn Ghanim, PDRY minister of planning; and other official persons.

The Soviet and South Yemen representatives exchanged information about the activity of the CPSU and the YSP at the contemporary stage. A thorough exchange of opinions took place on the state of and prospects for development of relations between the USSR and the PDRY in the political, economic, cultural and other spheres; various aspects of the contemporary international situation and of the situation in the Near East were discussed.

The Soviet side declared its support for the efforts of the party and state leadership of the PDRY aimed at fully improving the situation in the country and strengthening the unity of the YSP at all levels, at preventing the resurgence of factionalism, at reinforcing the political line of the party by practical activity and consistent specific steps, and at strengthening the international positions of Democratic Yemen.

The South Yemeni side expressed deep gratitude to the CPSU and the Soviet people for their selfless internationalist aid in surmounting the consequences of the events of January and their important contribution to the development of key branches of the country's economy.

The delegations declared themselves in favor of the further development of relations of friendship and all-round cooperation between the two countries on the basis of the Soviet-South Yemeni treaty of 1979. It was noted that friendly cooperation between the CPSU and the YSP remains the touchstone of the whole complex of Soviet-South Yemeni relations.

During discussion of topical international issues, the Soviet and South Yemeni spokesmen voiced deep concern over the tension still existing in the world and the lack of any turn toward improvement in the development of the international situation. Responsibility for this rests wholly with imperialist circles, above all the United States, which clings to outmoded methods in politics and continues to act from a position of strength and dictate vis-a-vis sovereign states. Such a course is incompatible with the realities of the world today and runs counter to the fundamental interests of all peoples.

The participants in the talks are unanimous in their belief that the Soviet foreign policy initiatives, first of all the concrete and large-scale program for the stage-by-stage scrapping of nuclear arsenals before the end of the present century -- set out in M.S. Gorbachev's 15 January 1986 statement -- open up broad possibilities for mankind to enter a qualitatively new stage of its development -- without nuclear weapons and the threat of a nuclear catastrophe.

In the sides' common view, the expansionist policy being pursued by the United States and Israel regarding the Arab peoples and states is the cause for the persisting tension in the Near East. The attempts by Washington and Tel Aviv to substitute all kinds of separate deals and secret intrigues for a collective search for a genuinely just settlement are not bringing the prospects for achieving peace in this region; any closer; on the contrary, they are removing them.

The South Yemeni comrades have given a high evaluation of the USSR's principled stand on the Near East problem. In doing so, they stressed the importance of implementing the proposal to set up a preparatory committee with a view to convening an international conference on the Near East, which would help start the practical advance in the direction of unblocking the conflict situation in the region. They confirmed their support for the DRA Government's initiative regarding the achievement of a national reconciliation in Afghanistan.

The Soviet and South Yemeni delegations noted with satisfaction the full concurrence of views and positions on the whole spectrum of issues discussed and the importance of the talks that took place and expressed the certainty that they will give a new impetus to the strengthening of friendly relations between the Soviet Union and Democratic Yemen in various spheres.

The talks proceeded in a warm, comradely atmosphere.

A joint communique was agreed on the results of the visit and will be published in the press.

On the same day, E.A. Shevardnadze and A.A. al-Dali signed a protocol on cooperation between the two countries' Foreign Ministries and a plan for cultural and scientific cooperation between the USSR and the PDRY in 1987-1986.

A.F. Dobrynin and M.S. 'Abdallah were present at the signing of the documents.

Dobrynin Receives Official

LD101852 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1824 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow, 10 Feb (TASS) -- A meeting took place today between Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah, Politburo member and secretary of the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) Central Committee.

Questions of Soviet-South Yemeni relations and interparty cooperation were discussed and their successful development noted with satisfaction in a conversation which took place in a comradely atmosphere. An exchange of views on the implementation of the current plan for contacts between the CPSU and the YSP also took place.

Cultural Agreement Signed

EA111729 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] A cultural and scientific cooperation agreement between democratic Yemen and the USSR was signed today in Moscow by Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister, on behalf of the Yemeni side, and by Comrade Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo and Soviet foreign minister on behalf of the Soviet side.

PDRY LEADERSHIP 'RECTIFYING' PAST MISTAKES

PM091603 Moscow TRUD in Russian 6 Feb 87 p 3

[Special correspondent V. Prokofyev article under the rubric "From a Journalist's Notebook": "Aden's Hot Stones"]

[Excerpts] Aden-Moscow -- [Passage omitted] No matter whom we talked with in South Yemen, the conversation returned one way or another to "Bloody Monday" -- 13 January last year. What happened then? [passage omitted]

The reality was as follows. A regular Politburo session had been scheduled for 13 January in the YSP Central Committee building. 'A.N. Muhammad failed to turn up, although his car had been parked in its usual place since the morning for all to see. On entering the conference hall, the former leader's personal bodyguard first placed 'A.N. Muhammad's attache case on the chairman's table and then drew out a Scorpion submachine gun and opened fire.

"Three Politburo members -- 'Ali 'Antar, deputy chairman of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen Supreme People's Council Presidium; Salih Muslih Qasim, minister of defense, and 'Ali Shaya' Hadi, chairman of the Party Control Commission -- were killed on the spot," Sa'id Ahmad Musa'id, an ideological section worker, told us as he led us through the bullet-marked rooms in the former YSP Central Committee building. "'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, one of the party's founders, was seriously injured. He died later, when a rocket hit the armored carrier in which comrades turned up to carry him away. At the same time, acting according to a prearranged plan, 'A.N. Muhammad's supporters arrested many party and state workers and servicemen". [passage omitted]

In the opinion of local comrades, there were people in 'A.N. Muhammad's entourage who played into the hands of private ownership trends. It was no coincidence, for example, they said, that in 1983 enterprises in the public sector paid 20 million dinars into the state treasury in income taxes, whereas those belonging to private capital paid just 700,000 dinars, although the latter's share of national production was very considerable. [passage omitted]

The new party and state leadership is now persistently rectifying the mistakes and distortions of the past. At recent plenums, the YSP Central committee has adopted a policy of strengthening organizational unity and improving internal party democracy. A vigorous struggle is being waged against corruption, bribe taking, and protectionism. In the economy, emphasis has been placed on developing promising sectors -- fishing, agriculture, and the working of minerals. People here pin special hopes on oil. The results of prospecting work being conducted with the help of Soviet geologists are very promising. [passage omitted] A very active part in the normalization process is being taken by the trade unions, which unite more than 100,000 working people -- approximately two-thirds of the entire hired labor force. [passage omitted]

CPSU SENDS JUBILEE GREETINGS TO TANZANIAN PARTY

PM091409 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Feb 87 First Edition p 1

[CPSU Central Committee greetings message to Tanzanian Revolutionary Party]

[Text] To the National Executive Committee of the Tanzanian Revolutionary Party (CCM)

Dear Comrades!

On behalf of Communists and the Soviet people we send you and, through you, all party members and working people of Tanzania friendly congratulations and best wishes on the Revolutionary Party's 10th anniversary.

During these years the Tanzanian people under the CCM's leadership have achieved considerable successes in liquidating the grave legacy of colonialism, strengthening the country's unity, and implementing progressive transformations. Tanzania's active foreign policy aimed at ensuring peace and security and directed against racism, apartheid, and aggressive imperialist intrigues has won universal recognition.

On the day of the 10th anniversary of the Revolutionary Party's formation the CPSU and all Soviet people declare their support for your struggle for peace and social progress and wish you new successes.

Long live the Tanzanian Revolutionary Party!

May the friendship and cooperation between the CPSU and the CCM and between the Soviet and Tanzanian peoples strengthen and develop!

The CPSU Central Committee.

S. AFRICAN UDF LEADER EXPLAINS LIBERATION ROLE

PM091221 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 1

[Interview with Archibald Gumede, president of the United Democratic Front, by IZVESTIYA correspondent in Maputo L. Shinkarev under the rubric "IZVESTIYA Interview": "Archibald Gumede: To Hold Out and To Win;" date and place of interview not given; first graf is IZVESTIYA introduction]

[Text] In conditions of extreme repression and a total ban on the activity of all organizations opposing apartheid, the United Democratic Front (UDF) is playing an important role in the political life of the Republic of South Africa [RSA]. IZVESTIYA correspondent in Maputo L. Shinkarev talks to its president, Archibald Gumede, who has devoted 50 of his 72 years to the liberation struggle of the people of South Africa.

In a situation where the African National Congress (ANC) is underground, the need arose to establish a legal mass movement. And so, more than 3 years ago, the UDF which unites 850 organizations with an overall membership of around 2.5 million people came into being. We seek the abolition of the policy of apartheid implemented by the racist government and we favor the creation of a united nonracial democratic country that would belong to all who live there.

Introducing the state of emergency in June last year, the P. Botha regime imposed police terror and violence on the civilian population. Over this period more than 20,000 people have been arrested. Almost 80 percent of them are members of the UDF or affiliated organizations.

The racists are trying to split the African majority by playing on ethnic differences. For this purpose they are also using collaborationists from the Inkatha Movement headed by G. Buthelezi. When at one of the mines miners called a strike, they were replaced by strikebreakers from the Inkatha Movement. The government has stationed more than 35,000 servicemen in African settlements. They are even billeted in schools. However, despite the terror and threats, the population in many places is setting up organs of people's self-government which administer the law and protect people's lives and property, organizing special detachments for this purpose. These new organs of power, which are the brainchild of Nelson Mandela, have come into being as a method of ensuring people's self-defense. Places where they exist are shunned by government officials and even the security forces.

The people's masses are appealing to the world community to support the liberation movement, to step up the pressure on the racist authorities, and to introduce comprehensive economic sanctions against the RSA. Certain Western countries are very reluctant to apply sanctions especially because they do not want to lose their profits. Take coal, for instance. Coal mined at RSA mines by African miners who get paid a pittance costs the capitalists much less than, say, coal mined in West Germany or Australia. In addition, imperialism also pursues other interests. These are the root of the evil.

CHADIAN GUNT DENOUNCES GOVERNMENT STATEMENT

LD101915 Moscow TASS in English 1536 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Tripoli February 10 TASS -- The Transitional National Unity Government [GUNT] of Chad has strongly denounced the stand of the Ndjamena regime, whose spokesman in his statement in Paris tried to negate the role of the Organization of African unity (OAU) in the settlement of the Chad conflict.

A commentary broadcast by Radio Bardai, emphasizes that the Transitional Government recognizes in their entirety and supports the OAU resolutions on the need to solve the internal Chadian problem within the framework of the continent.

The attempts to portray in a distorted light the nature of the struggle inside Chad by projecting it as a manifestation of contradictions wth Libya are a distracting manoeuvre whose purpose is to justify the armed intervention of France and the United States in the Affairs of that African country.

The Chadian people, the commentary stresses, knows well that Hissein Habre, who usurped power in violation of the Lagos agreements back in 1980, could not have remained in power in Ndjamena for a long time had it not been for the bayonets of French occupation troops, the backing on the part of the United States and Zionist Israel.

The Habre regime's stand towards the OAU peace-making efforts demonstrates anew for the whole world to see who erects the insuperable obstacles in the way of achieving national reconciliation, security and stability on the much-suffering Chadian land.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA DISCUSSES CHAD CONFLICT

PM101259 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Feb 87 First Edition p 3

[A. Bausin "International Notes": "'Mirages' Over the Desert"]

[Text] The times are gone when it was possible to meet camels and ostriches in the deserts and savannas of the African Republic of Chad and just migratory birds in the sky. Today Chad resembles a military camp, and it is far from harmless little birds that soar in its skies -- they are French combat aircraft.

The flames of civil war have long been raging in that country. The Transitional Government of National Unity [GUNT] is waging a struggle against H. Habre's pro-Western regime, which enjoys broad French and U.S. financial and military support. The country has now been virtually divided in two, with the dividing line following the 16th parallel. The northern part of the country is controlled by GUNT forces. The opposing sides could try to arrive at national reconciliation and stop the bloodshed, but imperialist forces are preventing this.

Thus, France is carrying out the interventionist operation "Hawk." Although an official Defense Ministry statement pointed out that this operation is purely "defensive and deterrent" in nature, the facts indicate the reverse. French Mirages have crossed the 16th parallel and bombed the civilian airport at Ouadi Doum. That raid resulted in human casualites and destruction. At a meeting with journalists General J. Saulnier, chief of staff of the French Armed Forces, who recently visited Chad, did not rule out the possibility of new French strikes against northern regions of Chad controlled by the GUNT.

Washington has also repeatedly emphasized its interest in the escalation of the confict in Chad. Commenting on the French air raid on Ouadi Doum, a White House spokesman declared: "We have already voiced support, on the whole, for the role which France is playing in Chad, and we take the same stand in this instance too." This support is expressed not only verbally. American transport aircraft are delivering to Ndjamena small arms, Redeye portable anti-aircraft missiles, ammunition, and spare parts for the American-made equipment that the Habre regime already has. LE FIGARO writes that approximately 100 metric tons of heavy military equipment was recently delivered to Chad. The question of allocating to Ndjamena additional American military aid to the tune of 10 million dollars, on top of the 20 million dollars already allocated, is being examined. According to a report in the magazine JEUNE AFRIQUE, approximately 500 American military experts, including several top officers, have set up in Chad and are "advising" the head of the regime and his staff.

In the light of the continuing French and U.S. interference in the Chadian conflict, many African countries have taken a clear and unambiguous stand. Thus, Ugandan President Y. Museveni declared in an interview that the Chadian conflict is a purely African problem whose solution must be promoted only by the states of the continent with the help of the OAU. A.A. al-Mirghani, chairman of the Supreme Council of Sudan, in turn pointed out that Western states' interference in Chad's internal affairs is aimed at internationalizing the conflict and cannot help to settle it.

PROKHOROV DISCUSSES OPTIONS FOR ELECTORAL REFORM

LD111514 Moscow TASS in English 1456 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 11 TASS -- TASS news analyst Boris Prokhorov writes:

More and more proposals on the further democratisation of the Soviet electoral system have begun to be made at public meetings, academic sessions and in the press in the recent period, especially after the January 1987 plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee.

All these proposals will be examined, though not all of them, of course, will be accepted. One of the proposals, for instance, envisions the continued principle of direct elections, in which a voter casts his ballot for or against a candidate to deputy, only in elections to the lower bodies of government, the rural, community and district soviets, where people, as a rule, know the candidates personally.

Under this system work collectives, which under the Constitution have the right to nominate candidates for deputy, would themselves decide how many candidates they want to nominate for each contested seat.

Soviet legislation does not limit the number of candidates for deputy and the nomination of a single candidate is merely the existing practice.

As for the higher soviets, such as regional and territory ones and the supreme soviets of the union republics and the USSR, the suggestion has been made to elect them in several stages. Under such a system, deputies to the regional soviet, for instance, would be elected not by voters, as is done now, but by deputies to the district soviets and deputies to the Supreme Soviet of the Ukraine, for instance, by deputies to the regional soviets of that republic.

Incidentally, before the current electoral system was introduced in the USSR in 1936, the elections in the country had been carried out in several stages.

One more proposal suggests a system similar to those in Poland and Hungary, where voting is done not only by electorates but also by territorial lists. Regional lists could include the names of candidates, regional-level leaders and public figures well known in the given region, and the republican list the names of republican-calibre figures. In this way the opinion of the voters of not just one district, as today, but the entire population of the given territory could be learned. Such a system could also help avoid comparisons not in favour of rank-and-file candidates, when a worker, not known outside his factory, runs, say, against a well-known minister.

One more proposal is that senior positions of state authority and the deputy's mandate should not go hand in hand. It would mean in practice that a national minister cannot be elected a deputy to the USSR Supreme Soviet.

In short, there are many proposals and which ones go into draft new legislation will be clear when the draft is published for nation-wide discussion.

PAPERS ANALYZE SUCCESS OF RAYKOM SECRET BALLOT

[Editorial report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 February 1987 in its First Edition publishes on page 2 under the rubric "Party Life: Experience in Restructuring" a 1,900-word report by T. Ganicheva, chief of the party life department of the newspaper KUZBASS, under the heading "The Choice." The report, from Kemerovo Oblast's Izhmorskiy Rayon, carries the subhead "Two Candidates Were Nominated for the Post of First Secretary of the Party Raykom: He Was Elected by Secret Ballot at a Plenum," and begins with the following introductory passage:

"Only a few days ago we read in M.S. Gorbachev's report to the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum: 'There is also a need to think about changing the procedure for the election of secretaries of party raykoms, okruzhkoms, gorkoms, obkoms, and kraykoms and union republic Communist Party Central Committees. Here... one could move toward the election of secretaries, including first secretaries, by secret ballot at plenums of the party committees concerned...' Interesting! How about trying it?

"Then the members of Izhmorskiy raykom met for an extraordinary plenum. They had to elect a first secretary. The former first secretary had become head of the party organization in a neighboring rayon. Who would replace him? Who should be entrusted with this responsible post? These questions were raised at the party raykom plenum which was to elect the new first secretary. The raykom had two people in reserve for this post."

Ganicheva then describes how N. Yermakov, first secretary of Kemerovo party obkom, who conducted the plenum, introduced the two candidates, "Rayispolkom Chairman Ivan Vasilyevich Malkov and Gennadiy Vasilyevich Sedykh, director of the 'Izhmorskiy' Sovkhoz." Both candidates were well known in the rayon, with similar careers to date. Ganicheva goes on:

"Following the usual form, nothing could be simpler: The bureau would propose the election of one person, and the auditorium would vote unanimously. There would be no need even to count the raised hands. Any subjectivism displayed at the bureau session or gentle pressure from someone behind closed doors would never leak out. But it became clear after an hour that there was no real -- as opposed to apparent -- unanimity. So it was not in vain that the chair called urgently for frankness and encouraged any relevant comments."

The report goes on to cite some of the statements made at the plenum by local officials and workers in support of one or other candidate, explaining: "We are expounding the different opinions in such detail so that those who were not present at the plenum can gain some feeling of the atmosphere of the discussion. The point is that every one of us will have to take part in choosing a leader at some level. Open discussion must be learned, we must learn to understand people, to see and assess their good qualities and not panic if we do not hear the expected compliment; we must learn a principled, magnanimous approach; we must learn to keep our dignity and spare that of other people. In short, we must learn to live and work in conditions of democracy." Ganicheva then describes the voting procedure and the outcome, with Malkov being elected by 29 votes to 20, and quotes the losing candidate, Sedykh, as saying that it was an "honest victory" and thanking people for their "frankness, kind words, and truthfulness." Ganicheva concludes:

"So, this is democracy. We are making progress. Sometimes we lack resolve and get agitated, but we are making progress. This matter pleases us. Pleases the majority. After all, it is so natural -- to think, compare, express preferences! And it is so natural to respect you if your opinion is really of interest to someone. There is faith, there is responsibility, and you can go a long way with these acquisitions."

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA also on 10 February 1987 publishes on page 2 of its First Edition a feature on the same Izhmorskiy raykom election, under the heading "Two Candidates: Party Raykom Plenum Elects First Secretary by Direct Secret Ballot." The feature consists of a 1,800-word report by own correspondent V. Kostyukovskiy in Kemerovo Oblast, a 50-word portrait of each of the two candidates, a photograph of the winner, and a commentary by Kemerovo Obkom First Secretary N.S. Yermakov.

Kostyukovskiy's report follows much the same pattern as Ganicheva's PRAVDA report, setting the scene and describing how the rayon party organization, failing to reach a unanimous opinion, had sought the advice of the obkom bureau, which met "immediately after the January plenum of the Central Committee." Kostyukovskiy reports that obkom First Secretary Yermakov, speaking at the bureau, proposed:

"Perhaps we could hold elections on a competitive basis? As was proposed at the plenum?"

Kostyukovskiy adds that after consideration by the bureau, the two candidates were consulted and both agreed to the plan. He then gives an account of speeches made on both sides at the raykom plenum and reports the result of the vote.

The commentary by N.S. Yermakov, first secretary of Kemerovo CPSU Obkom, reads:

"I will be frank: This was not an easy decision for us, the members of the obkom bureau. What prompted it? The main thing, of course, was the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum, the report at the plenum, and the whole spirit of the discussion. We are living in the complex, crucial times of restructuring, and have already had time to see that it is only possible on the basis of profound, substantial democratization of all aspects of life -- including party life. The established election practice is becoming outmoded. We are thinking more and more frequently about the meaning of the word -- to elect or choose. That is, to take the best of what is available.

"Of course, we had our doubts. Perhaps, after all, we should not hurry, but wait for new provisions and instructions? But instructions are always more precise and viable when they are based on real experience. What if we make a mistake? Well, even mistakes can be rectified without too much drama.

"As for my first-hand impressions of the Izhmorskiy party raykom plenum, on the whole I think it went well. The initial fears connected with the presence of two candidates on the list and the possible conflict of self-esteem or the prevalence of subjective evaluations proved unfounded. That is very encouraging.

"There is however clearly much that still requires additional consideration. For instance, is it a good thing that the two candidates were presented mainly in terms of their past services, and that the entire discussion amounted to this? On the one hand, it appears correct: You cannot assess a person without knowing about his moral qualities and his proven practical qualities. Unfortunately, another question was bypassed: How far is this or that candidate capable of improving the organization of practical affairs at this time and in this particular rayon party organization? After all, the rayon's future and people's fate will depend largely on who is now elected. That is a well known fact.

"Some things should have been better thought out by the obkom too, as initiator of the 'contest.' So that the candidates did not look like marriageable 'brides' listening with downcast eyes to praise of themselves, but had the right to speak, as people already having their own plans for the acceleration of socioeconomic development in the rayon and the mobilization of the masses for this work. Their own election platforms, if you like. I am sure a person can be seen just as clearly in an election platform as in any other characterization. Incidentally, it would then be easier for the plenum to demand that he report back some time later. You promised, comrade, now let us see what your promises are worth. Moreover the candidate himself, while drawing up the program which he is to take to the plenum, will think: Am I up to the task? And even from his intentions it will be clear whether or not he is capable of organizing the job as necessary. In other words, each candidate should defend his line. And the raykom members will assess which is more appropriate. They know the situation better than anyone else.

"What else arises from initial observations? The atmosphere in which the plenum was held. The participants were able to create a climate of party comradeship in the auditorium. People spoke in a principled way. Without fear of misinterpretation, but also tactfully, without damaging the delicate structure of respectful party relations, and at the same time without detriment to the spirit of businesslike discussion. It would be wrong to overestimate this delicate aspect of 'contested' elections or the degree of confidence and respect felt for both candidates. We must insist on this — that the atmosphere itself gives rise to no negative consequences in such cases. That it is all — figuratively speaking — open and above board, party fashion. Irrespective of the fact that preference is given to one person, his rival or, if you like, fellow contender should remain his comrade and loyal helper.

"How forces are subsequently distributed will depend largely on the new secretary. Will he be able to give full scope to his rival of yesterday? It is no secret that some people are still afraid of strong assistants. They start to choose weaker ones. As a result you find that the second echelon is a heavy burden to drag behind.

"I also think this: Is it not a good idea to discuss the results of the plenum immeditely at the raykom bureau? So to speak, to pull everything together?... Or, for instance, what if a candidate for an elected party post is not a local man but is what they call an 'outsider'? After all, there have been, are, and will continue to be such cases. If only because sometimes an 'outsider' is objectively necessary, with his fresh view of things and unmuddied relationships. Is it advisable to vote on such a candidate at once, or should time for getting acquainted he allowed? Could the question even arise of a probationary period for the canditate, perhaps? Or of holding joint raykom plenums where the elected aktiv of the rayon where the candidate has been working is given the right to speak in a consultative capacity.

"In a word, there are still many open questions, but one thing is clear: The first step has been taken, and I am convinced there is no turning back. Especially where that step was taken, in Izhmorskiy CPSU Raykom. If the next cadre change here is carried out by the old methods, the Commmists might not understand or accept it. And on our part it would be inconsistent.

"And as for the actual results of the vote, the count itself indicates that both candidates were really worthy. And that must be gratifying. Moreover Gennadiy Vasilyevich Sedykh remains in reserve as an entirely worthy candidate."

LATVIA'S PUGO HAILS ELECTION OF PLANT DIRECTOR

PM111029 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 87 p 1

[Article by B.K. Pugo, first secretary of the Latian Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities Youth Affairs Commission: "School of Democracy: On the Results of the First All-Union Competition To Fill the Vacant Post of Director"]

[Text] As far as I know, the competition to fill the vacant post of director of the "RAF" [bus-producing] Plant aroused great interest not only here, in Latvia, but also throughout the country. What was it about the contest that won people over, if I may put it like that? I think it was the competition's simplicity -- a most wonderful opportunity to declare oneself without delay and to struggle for victory on an equal footing with all applicants and with maximum openness. This probably was the first time, that such an opportunity had presented itself.

Of course, it is still a little early to draw profound conclusions. And there is no need to hurry. There are many questions here that we should all discuss together. As soon as KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA carried the report on the competition, many people asked me: "Are you really not in a position to find and appoint a director yourselves?" We could have both found and appointed a leader; on the whole, that is not difficult. But in adopting the decision to hold an all-union competition at "RAF" to fill the vacant post of plant director, we were thinking, above all, of the significance of the enterprise's output for the country.

For, at some time, the prestige of the "RAF" trademark began to fall because of poor quality. Last year the State Standards Committee commission removed the seal of quality from the minibus. The collective had lost faith in its own strength. That mood had to be changed urgently and radically.

Restructuring and democratization present great opportunities for questing in that sphere. We decided to make use of the traditions and the considerable experience accumulated in our republic in broadening people's self-management and the election system for filling leading posts. The Communist Party Central Committee recently has taken the firm course of not appointing but electing as many leaders as possible. The CPSU Central Committee January plenum, which discussed the question of restructuring and the party's cadre policy, fully confirmed the correctness of our chosen course. Special significance is attached to developing the democratization process in production today.

The competition at "RAF" and the election of the director convincingly attest to the collective's ability to make such a responsible decision as the election of its leader. I do not want to anticipate anything, but it seems to me that the new director will not let the collective down. And he does not have the moral right to do so. For he has been elected by the collective, which will be his reliable mainstay in his work.

A great deal has to be done at "RAF." It is necessary to stabilize the enterprise's work, achieve rhythmic plan fulfillment, return the seal of quality to the minibus, and sharply improve the working and domestic conditions of the "RAF" workers. The chief objective is to achieve world standards in the next few years.

What else did the competition make us take note of? Elections of team leaders, foremen, and shop chiefs are widespread in the republic. There are several plant directors and a VUZ rector who also have been elected by the collectives from among several candidates.

The competition system and the election system make it possible to accelerate considerably the democratization process in the countryside. We certainly will recommend very soon that the republic Agro-Industrial Committee tackle this work. Team leaders, link leaders, field cultivation department managers, livestock unit chiefs, and kolkhoz and sovkhoz chief specialists definitely must be elected, perhaps following a competition. We will involve the Komsomol and all our young people in this.

NEW SATIRICAL PROGRAM TAKES AIM AT SHORTCOMINGS

OW091037 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 0755 GMT on 8 February carries the first 30-minute episode of a new satirical program. Hosted by V. Lutovinov, the program is called "Both Jokingly and Seriously." It is divided into several parts, each focusing on topical issues. Documentary clips of existing siutations are shown along with a satirist's tongue-in-cheek comments. The program begins with V. Lutovinov interviewing people in the street about their views on the role of satire and on which aspects of life should be satirized.

The first part of the program dramatizes the adage: Look before you leap. It is called "The Freezing Point" and is presented by satirist A. Yachmenev. The segment centers around a foam perlite plant built several years ago in Krasilov, Khmelnitskiy Oblast. The camera shows People's Controller I. Kabatskiy, standing in front of an abandoned plant with rusting equipment, recalling the effort that went into building the plant. To solve the mystery of the abandoned plant, Yachmenev decides to telephone chairman Pylnikov of the Ukrainian Agrostroy, in Kiev and ask him why the plant is idle. Pylnikov replies that no such plant exists. Yachmenev agrees. B. Alkhin, chief of a subdepartment of the building industry of the USSR Gosagroprom, explains that the plant had to be abandoned due to the unavailability of raw materials, thereby entailing a loss of R300,000. Yachmenev reminds the viewers of the old saying: Look before you leap.

The second segment of the program is called "Bypassing the Laws of Nature" and is introduced by satirist A. Khortom, who speaks about a taxi driver in Vladimir. Khortom reminds the viewers that the laws of the country limit the sale of alcoholic beverages to certain hours and control the sale price of these drinks. The taxi driver managed to extend both the "trading hours" and the price, charging R25 for a bottle of wine. The video shows the detained taxi driver, his stock, and potential customers. The segment continues with Khortom saying that over 300 different dishes can be made from bread. However, a certain woman in Krasnyy Bogatyr village in Vladimir Oblast managed, without the benefit of a degree in chemistry, to produce a certain "colorless liquid" from bread. The camera also shows a large collection of bottles and the arrested woman in Aleksandrovo denying that she sold her elixir for R20 a bottle and promising never to do so again. Khortom says that she disproved the law on conservation of matter: She made a lot more than she used.

The third segment is introduced by Lutovinov, who asks passers-by whether anyone would be willing to drink water from a river. The general consensus is that this would be foolhardy, to say the least. The camera then shows Mozhayev, an old resident of Kuznetsk city, being interviewed about the pollution of the Truyev River. He recalls the good old days, when the river was clear of pollutants and was fit for swimming and drinking.

Next, Yeremenko, the chief engineer of a milk plant, is interviewed. He discussed the belated efforts to stop dumping waste into the river. His talk is followed by an interview with the chief engineer of a local meat combine who says that for the past 5 years the plant has been restrained from dumping waste into the river. The chief engineer of a leather treatment plant speaks about the toxic waste produced by his plant, which is still going into the river. The segment ends with a close-up shot of the polluted river and the constant flow of waste that still finds its way to the river and a reminder all this finds its way into the Caspian Sea that via the rivers Sura and Volga.

Lutovinov is once again shown in the streets asking the opinions of passers-by about speculators. The segment goes on to detail the recent arrest of speculator Oblonskaya in Moscow. Senior inspector A. Loginov summarizes the case of the detainee,saying that industrial goods valued at R93,000 were recovered from her apartment, in addition to R30,000 in cash. The video shows Oblonskaya in the dock refusing to testify before the cameras. Shots of the confiscated goods -- including French perfumes and cognacs, Adidas clothes, and other imported items -- Loginov says that Oblonskaya, born in 1954, acted as both a wholesaler and a retailer. Middlemen from various republics used to visit her regularly and purchased large amounts from her.

Concluding the program, Lutovinov faces the camera and says: "Just a moment, I did not have time to tell you one more thing. When this program already had been completed, our consciences spoke up quite unexepectedly: How can you? Are you out of your minds? They polluted and ruined an entire river and you giggle! A plant fell apart without operating for even a single day and you laugh! The decree against alcohol is no decree at all for some and you grin and smile! Why? You should be crying! "Yes, we agreed with your consciences. We really do not feel like laughing. However, if with the help of laughter we can fight evil and overcome shortcomings, then we are all for such laughter. What about you?"

BOOK ARGUES AGAINST PRIVATE OWNERSHIP INTERESTS

PM101245 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Feb 87 Second Edition p 2

[V. Glagolev "Book Review": "Topical Study"]

[Text] Social scientists have been devoting noticeably more attention to problems concerning the production relations of socialism since the 27th CPSU Congress. All kinds of seminars and debates are being held, discussions in specialized journals are much livelier, and finally, scientific monographs are being published one after another. O.I. Ozherelyev's book under review (Footnote) (O.I. Ozherelyev: "Improvemnt of Production Relations" [Sovershenstvovaniye Proizvodstvennykh Otnosheniy], Moscow, Economics Publishing House, 1986, 255 pages) examines the improvement of socialist production relations both as a most important theoretical prerequisite for the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development and specifically as a feasible program of our political existence. In my opinion, this is perhaps its main merit. But it does have other merits, too.

The further we advance along the path of social progress, the more evident becomes the need for a solicitous attitude toward V.I. Lenin's scientific heritage. I would like to back this idea by the author. It is no secret that recently, and especially in fictional literature, there have been some extremely free interpretations of Lenin's stipulations on the organization of economic building and especially those concerning the New Economic Policy period. One gets the impression that some publicists, attempting to speak "boldly," allow themselves -- in A.M. Gorkiy's words -- to jump to conclusions [khodit po ideyam, kak po lestnitsam].

In the monograph attention is attracted by its analysis of the interaction of objective and subjective factors in economics. The author correctly opposes underestimating the subjective factor. How often it happens, for example, that public opinion -- not without prompting from some academics -- identifies the errors and miscalculations of incompetent people working within the planning system with the planning system itself as the fundamental principle governing the management of the socialist economy. Hence stems the supreme importance -- and attention was drawn to this yet again by the CPSU Central Committee January plenum -- attacked to compliance with Lenin's directive "to study people and seek out /SKILLFUL/ [preceding word printed in boldface] workers. This is the essential point today; without it, all orders and resolutions are nothing but useless bits of paper" (Vol 44, p 367).

One can fully agree with the author: "The main lever for galvanizing the human factor under socialism does not lie in the sphere of reviving private ownership interests... The party's strategic tasks are resolved primarily by improving specific, plan-based methods of economic management and improving the management quality of socioeconomic processes."

O.I. Ozherelyev has not overlooked the complex but topical problems of commodity-money relationships and the strengthening of financial autonomy, correctly linking them with the need to organize nationwide accounting and monitoring, primarily of the measure of labor and consumption.

Let me note the following by way of concluding the review: In mapping out the main avenue for improving production relations, the CPSU, relying on Lenin's fundamental theoretical stipulations, has drawn the conclusion that the answers to the questions posed by life must be sought not beyond the boundaries of socialism but within the framework of our system, revealing the potential of the planned economy and of socialist democracy. This means that the improvement of production relations must firmly follow the path of strengthening the general communist principles within them.

TV PORTRAYAL OF LENIN-BUKHARIN ARGUMENT REVIEWED

PM281429 [Editorial Report] Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian on 28 January carries on page 2 a 1,400-word article by Candidate of Historical Sciences Viktor Listov entitled: "The Clean Air of Revolution." The article discusses the four movies in the series: "Aspects of a Portrait of V.I. Lenin," in connection with the broadcasting of them, "at last," on television.

Having discussed in favorable terms the performance of Mikhail Ulyanov in the role of Lenin, compared with other "mediocre" portrayals, Listov focuses on a specific sequence:

"One of the most revealing episodes is in the first movie -- 'Individual Voting.' It shows the quiet but intensely polemical dialogue between Lenin and Nikolay Bukharin (played by O. Tabakov) about the Brest peace in the interval between sessions of the Fourth Extraordinary Congress of Soviets. Bukharin is a clever opponent with a splendid grasp of logic, and the accusations he makes against Lenin are personal as well as political. That Lenin was right and Bukharin was wrong is a historical fact incorporated in the scenario. But in this dialogue Ulyanov and Tabakov achieve something more than an affirmation of the facts.

"In his performance, Ulyanov subtly and accurately stresses Lenin's ability to rise above accusations of a personal nature and prevent the argument from deteriorating to the point where it is merely a matter of personalities. [paragraph continues]

The opponent may be wrong, he may even be angry and aggressive, BUT IT IS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN YOUR RESPECT FOR THE OTHER PARTICIPANT IN THE DEBATE IF HE IS SINCERE AND HONEST. On the other hand, Tabakov has no intention of going for a knockout immediately -- his character simply goes away, left with his doubts and uncertainties.

"Lenin achieves the full and final victory, not in the argument in the corridor, but in the open individual voting at the congress, where the vast majority of delegates say 'yes' to Lenin's peace policy.

"G.V. Chicherin, people's commisar for foreign affairs, once remarked that for Lenin, being right meant being able to demonstrate one's viewpoint to the majority. 'He never had any other concept of victory over opponents than that of the victory of his agruments within the setting of an organization,' Chicherin wrote.

"The entire 'Individual Voting' picture is basically an artistic parallel of this observation, an open, screen lesson in democracy, a lesson which has a resonance today."

LUKYANOV, OTHERS MARK AEROFLOT DAY IN MOSCOW

LD062231 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Text] The professional holiday of aviation workers: Civil aviation workers have entered the 2d year of the 12th 5-Year Plan in a businesslike frame of mind. Over the past year, more than 115 million passengers and 3 million tonnes of cargo have been transported. This was stated at a ceremonial gathering devoted to Aeroflot Day which took place in Moscow today Comrade Lukyanov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Savinkin, chief of a department of the CPSU Central Committee; leaders from a number of ministries and departments; representatives from party, local soviet, and public organizations, and eminent scientists and front-ranking workers in the industry were in the presidium. Comrade Bugayev, USSR minister of civil aviation, delivered a report.

Efforts To Improve Aeroflot

LD080016 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 7 Feb 87

[Text] The country's aviators have their professional holiday tomorrow. On the eve of Aeroflot Day, our correspondent interviewed Boris Pavlovich Bugayev, USSR minister of civil aviation.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Boris Pavlovich, as is known, Aeroflot ended the last year with record indicators both on passenger and freight transport, and on the overall volume of work carried out for the national economy. At the same time, judging by your remarks at the collegium's concluding session, I understand that the requirements for passenger transport are far from fully satisfied.

[Bugayev] Last year was indeed was a year of record indicators, but at the same time it revealed serious shortcomings in the sector's work, shortcomings which we should have gotten rid of a long time ago. A few years ago, as you know, a competition began in the sector under the slogan: "To turn Aeroflot into a standard for transport." So we have the motto, we have the competition, but we are awaiting the results. As before, we receive thousands of complaints from passengers. People complain about rudeness and thoughtlessness; they complain about the fact that they cannot get a ticket in good time.

[Bugayev continues) So, starting from last year, we decided to judge the results of work not just by the final indicators, but also according to passenger assessment. This, essentially, will be the important thing, the result that is important for all administrations. In fairness it should be said that the number of complaints has declined over the year, by almost a factor of two, but it should not lull us, inasmuch as the point in question is a matter we Aeroflot workers must not forget, on either a working day or a holiday. The scale of acceleration and restructuring is growing in the country; they present the transport system with a particular account, and civil aviation all the more so. After all, Aeroflot is its most expeditious, mobile, and technically equipped section. Therefore, every passenger must be confident that he will be brought to his destination on time, and if he is in a good mood as well then, on the whole, that is what is needed. The rates of restructuring in the sector must now develop according to quite different laws, we cannot and we do not have the right to waste the 5-year plan on what needs to be done already today, and first and foremost this relates to enhancing passenger service standards both in the air and on the ground, as well as high safety in flight.

[Correspondent] In November 1986, the collegium of the ministry examined a comprehensive program on improving transportation. Is this program already in effect?

[Bugayev] Absolutely. This program encompasses a great problem; it envisages the further development of airports and air terminals, as well as the introduction of new air traffic control systems and an information and inquiry sevice. It is calculated to imporve the quality of Aeroflot's work at all levels, starting with the sale of tickets at ticket offices and ending with the successful completion of flights. Personally, I am for the following: On leaving the airfield, every passenger should look back on the airplane which has brought him and should want to meet Aeroflot again. He does not see the minister, the aircraft commander, or the crew; he meets the air stewards, the people who see the airplane in and work in transport departments. One would like them to display maximum attention, warmth, and service standards toward our passengers. The passengers should feel like guests of Aeroflot. [end recording]

COMMISSION FORMED TO DRAFT NEW WRITER'S STATUTE

PM271643 [Editorial Report] Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 January 1986 carries on page 2 an unattributed report entitled "At the USSR Writers' Union Board Secretariat Bureau." Having described the meeting proceedings, the report goes on to describe an organizational action:

"On the basis of remarks made at the Eighth USSR Writers Congress, the Secretariat Bureau saw fit to start work on preparing a draft new edition of the USSR Writers Union statute and appointed a commission to deal with it.

"The Bureau session was chaired by G. Baklanov. It was addressed by Oles Gonchar, S. Zalygin, V. Karpov, G. Markov, and USSR Writers Union Board Secretary Yu. Verchenko.

"Ye. V. Zaytsev, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Culture Section, spoke at the Bureau session.

"Commission to Elaborate a Draft new Edition of the USSR Writers' Union Status [subhead]

"Commission Chairman V.V. Karpov; Deputy Chairman Yu.N. Verchenko and Yu.T. Gribov; commission members G.G. Abashidze, Ch.T. Aytmatov, M.N. Alekseyev, S.P. Alekseyev, A.G. Aleksin, A.A. Ananyev, G.Ya. Baklanov, S.A. Baruzdin, B.Ya. Bedyurov, Yu.V. Bondarev, G.A. Borovik, N.V. Borovskaya, P.P. Botsu, V.V. Bykov, V.E. Beekman, A.A. Vergelis, S.V. Vikulov, Yu.A. Vinogradov, A.A. Voznesenskiy, Yu.N. Voronin, R.G. Gamzatov, N.S. Gilevich, A.T. Gonchar, N.A. Gorbachev, G.S. Gots, D.A. Granin, N.M. Gribachev, N.G. Damdinov, S.A. Dangulov, S.P. Danilov, I.A. Dedkov, A.D. Dementyev, N.K. Dorizo, Yu.V. Drunina, M.A. Dudin, Kh. Durdyyev, Ye.A. Yevtushenko, V.K. Yegorov, V.N. Yeremenko, S.P. Zalygin, E.Yu. Zimin, A.S. Ivanov, Ye.A. Isayev, M. Kanoatov (Mumin Kanoat), A.P. Keshokov, V.P. Kobenko, M.B. Kozmin, L.L. Kokoulin, S.P. Kolov, M.M. Kolosov, V.A. Korotich, V.N. Krupin, F.F. Kuznetsov, A.P. Kuleshov, L.I. Lavlinskiy, L.M. Leonov, A.M. Maldonis, G.M. Markov, V.I. Marchenko, E.B. Mezhelaytis, T.A. Minnullin, A.M. Mirzagitov, N.I. Morishnichenko, A.A. Mikhaylov, S.V. Mikhalkov, Yu.M. Mushketick, P.A. Mikolayev, V.M. Ozerov, B.I. Oleynik, V.O. Osipov, D.V. Pavlychko, G.N. Paderin, Ya.Ya. Peters, V.A. Petrosyan, V.D. Povolyeyev, Yu.M. Polyakov, P.L. Proskurin, V.G. Rasputin, R.I. Rozhdestvenskiy, V.S. Rozov, A.D. Salynskiy, S.A. Samsonov, S.V. Sartakov, K.N. Selikhov, Ye.Yu. Sidorov, K.V. Skvortsov, Ye.I. Skurko (Maksim Tank), L.L. Sorokin, I.F. Stadnyuk, O.O. Suleymenov, Yu.I. Surovtsev, U.R. Umarbekov, V.A. Ustinov, N.T. Fedorenko, L.A. Frolov, G.Sh. Tsitsishvili, A.B. Chakovskiy, A.N. Chepurov, Yu.D. Chernichenko, M.F. Shatrov, M.P. Shevchenko, O.N. Shestinskiy, L.V. Shikina, I.G. Shikhlinskiy (Ismail Shikhly), V.M. Shugayev."

I.T. FROLOV ELECTED PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY HEAD

PM05095 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Feb 87 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Meeting the Demands of the Time"]

[Text] Philosophical science is called upon to be a reliable theoretical weapon in the qualitative revolutionary restructuring of society. That was the main idea of the discussion held at the Fourth USSR Philosophical Society Congress in Moscow.

The congress voiced serious concern at the fact that philosophical science is failing to meet the new demands put forward by the party and by the life of Soviet society itself. The passivity of workers on the theoretical front was noted, as was their timidity of thought and their reluctance to tackle the study of acute problems of the day.

The critical and exacting analysis of the Philosophical Society's activity made at the congress provides every justification for concluding that it is necessary to fundamentally restructure the society. The basis of this work will be the concept of restructuring the entire sphere of social sciences -- a concept worked out by the 27th party congress and further developed in the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the Journal KOMMUNIST," in M.S. Gorbachev's speech at the All-Union Conference of Heads of Social Science Departments, and at the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum.

I.T. Frolov, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, was elected president of the USSR Philosophical Society.

Philosophical Forum Held

PM111633 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Scientists' Conference"]

[Text] An all-union conference on philosophical and social problems of science and technology opened in Moscow 10 February. More than 500 philosophers, legal experts, psychologists, cyberneticists, and physicists are participating in its work.

Academician P.N. Fedoseyev, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, delivered a report on the subject: "Scientific, Technical, and Social Progress: Problems and Interdependence." He emphasized that the program adopted at the 27th CPSU Congress for accelerating the country's socioeconomic development has set crucial new tasks for science. The intensification of scientific and technical progress and the renewal and improvement of socialist society must be combined with a philosophical interpretation of ways to develop the natural, technical, and social sciences and with the elaboration of their philosophical and methodological base.

I.T. Frolov, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, devoted his speech to the elaboration of philosophical and social problems of science and technology in the light of the 27th party congress decisions. In our time, the speaker said, investigation into the dialectical interdependence of scientific, technical, and social progress and concrete analysis of the social prerequisites, conditions, and consequences of the scientific and technical revolution and of its role in solving global problems of modern civilization are assuming special significance.

V.V. Ryabov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Science and Educational Institutions Section, is participating in the work of the conference, which will last 3 days.

BRIEFS

KIEV RADIATION HEALTH CENTER -- Kiev, 6 Feb (TASS) -- Protecting people's health from even minimal effects of radioactive elements and providing prompt and highly trained preventive care are the aims of the new specialized health center for radiation protection of the population, set up in the Ukrainian capital. The health center's structure envisages practically everything for systematic observation of the health condition of citizens who were resident in the area of the Chernobyl AES. Since the inception of the health center over 1,000 people have been examined using radiometric control and a set of the most precise tests. [Text] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0990 GMT 6 Feb 87 LD]

NOVOSTI NEWS CONFERENCE -- Moscow February 6 TASS -- The NOVOSTI news agency, APN, held its fifth conference in Moscow today which was attended by representatives of the founding organisations, including the USSR Journalists' and Writer's Unions, the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship nd Cultural Ties With Foreign Countries, the All-Union "Knowledge" Society and the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions. The delegates discussed the report of the chairman of the APN board, Valentin Falin, and the tasks facing the agency in present-day conditions. The conference made changes in the APN charter and elected a new founding council. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 2111 GMT 6 Feb 87 LD]

ECONOMIC RESTRUCTURING, JOINT ENTERPRISES

PM061315 Moscow TRUD in Russian 4 Feb 87 pp 1, 3

[Interview with I.D. Ivanov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers State Foreign Economic Commission by V. Golovachev under the rubric "On a Businesslike Basis': "There Will Be Joint Enterprises" -- date and place of interview not specified; first graf is TRUD introduction]

[Text] Recently documents have been published on the procedure for the establishment and administration of joint enterprises and international associations and organizations on USSR territory. This is an important new step forward in the development of foreign economic relations which opens up great potential for cooperation between Soviet and foreign organizations, firms, management organs. At the request of the editorial office I.D. Ivanov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers State Foreign Economic Commission, comments on these documents.

[Ivanov] The process of the restructuring of the economic mechanism which is under way in our economy also applies to foreign economic relations. It is a questions here of the deepening of socialist economic integration and of supplementing trade relations with production sharing. Economic cooperation with capitalist and developing countries on a stable and mutually advantageous basis, including the new forms of cooperation, is also given new impetus.

[Golovachev] The USSR's cooperation with other CEMA member countries has a long tradition. Clearly, this experience will come in useful in the creation of joint enterprises and international associations and organizations. What is the difference between these forms of cooperation?

[Ivanov] They differ in terms both of their structure and the tasks which they are called upon to resolve. Joint enterprises are created on the basis of the partners' joint ownership and are intended to resolve a wide range of tasks in the assimilation of new production capacities, the development of the export base, and replacement of imports. In international associations the partners' property remains national and they merely coordinate their economic activity, for example through specialization, maneuvering of capacities, and so forth. And third and last, joint organizations (on the basis of joint ownership) will be established mainly for the purpose of conducting research and development work. At present there are already two joint enterprises (with partners from the GDR and Bulgaria) and it is expected that about 25 more will be created. More than 20 international associations and joint organizations are also already in operation and it is planned to increase their number to 80 in the near future.

I must mention that it is only joint enterprises which will be established with capitalist and developing countries' firms. This is in keeping with current trends in world economic cooperation. Traditional trade relations are now increasingly being supplemented by international production sharing and it is joint enterprises which are the basic unit for the organization of production sharing.

[Golovachev] Some readers are asking whether it is really necessary to "involve capitalists and Western capital" in the development of our economy? Will this not make us dependent on capitalist states?

[Ivanov] What is needed here is a dialectic, rather than a dogmatic approach. A capitalist has two faces. He is both an entrepreneur and a representative of the bourgeoisie expressing private-ownership production relations. We are involving Western firms in the first capacity, of course. The objectives of the creation of joint enterprises are: assimilation of progressive technology and management experience, replacement of part of our foreign currency imports with domestic production, and the development of our export base. The latter is particularly important.

As for the dependence, to which we could allegedly succumb, the law provides guarantees against this happening. Joint enterprises operate outside the state plan, they conduct their operations on the country's domestic market through the competent Soviet foreign trade organizations and they deal in rubles. The posts of chairman of the board and director general of joint enterprises are to be filled by Soviet citizens. It has been laid down that the Soviet side will provide at least 51 percent of the statutory capital. Although the partner will, of course, receive his share of the profits and the protection of his capital and observance of his rights stipulated in the contract are guaranteed. In other words, the law will balance the interests of both sides.

[Golovachev] An American newspaper wrote recently that some foreign firms would allegedly like to dictate their own terms to us, so that, for instance, they would have the right to sack workers regardless of our laws. Could that happen?

[Ivanov] No, it could not, because the Soviet labor code will apply at joint enterprises. Their management will be obliged to conclude a collective agreement with the trade union organization. The content of this agreement, including provisions relating to the social development of the collective, will also be determined by Soviet standards.

[Golovachev] What about labor remuneration, working hours, and leisure?

[Ivanov] All this social security, social insurance, will be regulated by the standards of Soviet legislation. However, if the management and the trade union deem it expedient, additional incentives for the quantity and quality of labor may be introduced at the enteprise. In general, however, the well-being of the labor collective, including its material well-being, will depend on how successful the enterprise is. The enterprises will operate on the basis of the principles of financial autonomy, self-sufficiency in foreign currency terms, and self-financing. The management itself determines technological and commercial policy and production programs and handles its export and import operations on its own. Furthermore, all expenditure is to be covered by income from output sales. In foreign currency on the external market and in rubles on the domestic market.

[Golovachev] Could a joint enterprise go bankrupt? What would happen in that case?

[Ivanov] In any enterprise there is a risk involved. This applies also to joint enterprises. However, this risk can and must be minimized. Therefore the creation of any joint enterprise will be preceded by a detailed feasibility study of it economic viability. Responsibility for this rests with the Soviet partner and the ministry under whose jurisdiction it falls. We have no intention of launching ourselves into adventures. At the same time, the law makes provision for the possibility of ending the enterprise's operaton by means of its liquidation or reorganization for various reasons including economic failure.

[Golovachev] But after all, there is another option -- bank credits -- is there not?

[Ivanov] Of course. However, credits are supplied after a detailed study of the state of affairs at the enterprise in order to stimulate its successful activity rather than subsidize miscalculations in its operation.

[Golovachev] How, specifically, does work to set up a joint enterprise get off the ground?

[Ivanov] On the initiative of an interested foreign firm or a Soviet enterprise. (I must say that our industry could be more active in this respect.) Concrete negotiations on the establishment of an enterprise are conducted at the level of ministries or departments. If the feasibility study looks promising, the founding documents are agreed -- the agreement on the establishment of the enterprise and its statutes. These documents are then submitted to the USSR Council of Ministers. The enterprise is entered in a special register and is invested with the rights of a corporate body under Soviet legislation.

[Golovachev] Could it happen that joint enterprises start producing output for which there is demand in our country by which is obsolete by world market standards?

[Ivanov] It is precisely to avoid this situation that we are gearing them to production for the domestic market and exports simultaneously. International competition will not permit their output to drop below world standards. Enterprises which produce output of a lower than world market standard are what we do not need.

[Golovachev] What kind of goods will these enterprises produce -- equipment for plants or consumer goods?

[Ivanov] Both. Such enterprises can be established in the most varied sectors of production and the service area. In this, the Soviet partners must be guided by the priorities outlined in our development plans, both technical and social.

[Golovachev] How have foreign firms reacted to the possibility of setting up joint enterprises?

[Ivanov] With interest. Around 100 preliminary applications for the establishment of such enterprises have been received from countries like the FRG, Finland, Japan, Italy, Holland, the United States, India, and a number of other countries.

Negotiations are under way. According to specialists, they could lead to the establishment of joint enterprises as early as the first half of the current year.

[Golovachev] What is attracting foreign firms to our country?

[Ivanov] Our pros are an extensive market, the availability of resources, and an advanced scientific base. And last but not least our business reputation, the strict observance by the Soviet side of its international contract commitments.

[Golovachev] Have any specific accords been concluded yet?

[Ivanov] Yes. The press has already reported that the BURDA fashion magazine is to be published in the USSR. [paragraph continues]

This is a joint enterprise of the USSR State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants, and the Book Trade and the well-known FRC company. Inturist has reached agreement with Finnish firms on the joint reconstruction of the "Berlin" hotel in Moscow. A joint enterprise for the recycling of plastic waste has been set up with other Finnish partners.

[Golovachev] Could you tell us some details about the terms of these accords.

[Ivanov] No, I could not. There are rules of confidentiality in business. Only the partners themselves have this kind of information at their disposal.

IMPORTANCE OF ROTARY TECHNOLOGY STRESSED

PM101423 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Feb 87 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Maximum Attention to Intersector Scientific and Technical Complexes"]

[Text] The party Central Committee attaches very great importance to the concentration of manpower and resources on priority areas of science and technology in order to reach the forefront as quickly as possible. It was to this end that 20 intersector scientific and technical complexes (MNTK's) were set up with the job of carrying out the entire cycle of work on creating and assimilating production of highly effective types of new generation equipment, technology, and materials.

The urgent problems of retooling form a single tight knot which can be unraveled if the tackling in isolation of any individual departmental problem is ruled out.

MNTK's have an important part to play in accelerating the implementation of new ideas and contributing to the more resolute introduction of the most advanced developments into practice. The potential of complexes was pointed out at the CPSU Central Committe January Plenum by Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who stressed that the closest attention must be paid to their formation and development.

Once promising way of improving production efficiency is the extensive use of the rotary technique of manufacturing, assembling, and checking production. The "Rotar" MNTK has the job of resolving this task. Some 29 organizations in 22 ministries are involved in the work of this complex.

A complex part economic aktiv meeting was held on 7 February to discuss measures to resolutely improve the performance of MNTK's in the light of the CPSU Central Committee's demands.

The creation of rotary technology is undoubtedly a priority for the country, and the satisfaction of even industry's minimum requirements for this type of equipment will make it possible to release hundreds of thousands of skilled personnel for other areas of social production, improve working conditions, and ensure a steady supply of high-quality products. The report by MNTK General Director Academician L.N. Koshkin and the speeches made an objective and self-critical analysis of the state of affairs and was noted that the work of the MNTK lacks the necessary range at the moment, is only of average standard, and falls short of the available potential. The organizational phase was too long.

This analysis is particularly important at a time when an abrupt change of direction is taking place in politics, in the economy, and in the social area, when we have embarked on the path of fundamental transformations. The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum, being a purposeful continuation and development of the course elaborated by the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum and 27th Party Congress, deepen the process of restructuring in society and impart dynamism to the intensive work on renewing all aspects of the life of the party and people.

The purpose of the restructuring in the economy and in work with cadres, as was noted at the January plenum, consists in particular in correctly combining centralized management and the broadening of independence at local level. The integration of science with production is of decisive significance today in terms of the acceleration of scientific and technical progress. It is in MNTK's that all the requisite conditions existed for the comprehensive solution of this task. The elaboration of an all-union targeted scientific and technical program for the creation of rotary lines and their introduction in national economic sectors occupies a special place among the problems facing the "Rotor" MNTK. It must be geared not only to the current 5-year plan, but to the period up to the year 2000.

Each ministry now has a special rotary line subunit; the subunits include a number of branches of the design bureau which deals with this problem and which has full responsibility for all matters relating to the development of rotor technology at enterprises in all the industrial sectors of a given region. The formation of an MNTK and the creation of the most favorable conditions for the development of equipment and technology are governed to a tremendous degree by the active stance of the institutes and design bureaus in the complex and of local party bodies. Now that creative collectives are being set up and production capacities are being created there is a greater need than ever before for local bodies to exercise a principled party influence on the acceleration of these processes and strict day-to-day control.

The meeting sharply criticized a number of ministries for dragging their feet in the matter of developing this very important area of modern machine building. There was active support for proposals on expanding the training of specialists in rotary technology at VUZ's, technical colleges, and vocational and technical schools.

As yet the "Rotor" MNTK has not succeeded in setting up a system of moral and material incentives which would encourage all the participants to act vigorously and would sweep narrow departmental interests aside. Special attention was paid to the importance of a scientifically valid view of the scale of the use of this progressive technique and of its place in an overall manufacturing process using various methods. Every sector and every region must elaborate a system of classifiers for the types of products, which will make it possible to know exactly how many flexible production systems, robotized complexes, rotary lines, and pieces of universal equipment are needed and where.

MNTK main organizations should take charge of this work in the ministries, and then the USSR Academy of Sciences and State Committee for Science and Technology will have to generalize the materials and elaborate a common line in the area of long-term production automation.

In order to develop rotary technology, it was stressed at the meeting, it is necessary to make effective use of direct links between CEMA countries' enterprises.

The party is pinning great hopes on the creation of MNTK's. [paragraph continues]

But their work, like anything else, in the process of the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development will depend on the human factor, on how promptly and profoundly design and technology cadres and economic leaders recognize the need for revolutionary changes and are able to implement the party's line. Work in conditions of broad democracy and openness demands of party organization and enterprises and institutions in MNTK's a resolute abandonment of established patterns and the elaboration of bold approaches to organizational, ideological, and economic activity.

The meeting was addressed by L.N. Zaykov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

V.L. Tolstykh, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology; O.S. Belyakov, chief of a CPSU Central Committee section; V.K. Mesyatsev, first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Obkom; V.I. Smyslov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Gosplan; USSR ministers V.V. Bakhirev and P.V. Finogenov; secretaries of a number of party obkoms; leaders of ministries in the machine building complex; and scientists and specialists of the "Rotor" MNTK participated in the aktiv's work.

DEFENSE INDUSTRY WORKERS TU CONGRESS ENDS

PM061239 Moscow TRUD in Russian 4 Feb 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Trade Union Congress"]

[Text] The congress of the defense industry workers trade union has ended in Moscow. Its delegates discussed tasks in the restructuring of trade union work and the enhancement of the trade union's role in the mobilization of the human factor and the acceleration of the socioeconomic development of industrial sectors.

Amendments were made to the trade union statute. The congress was attended by A.I. Lukyanov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; U.D. Maslyukov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Ye.Z. Razumov and N.A. Shakhov, deputy chiefs of CPSU Central Committee sections; AUCCTU Secretary V.P. Provotorov; and leaders of ministries and departments.

The congress elected a new trade union central committee, auditing commission, and delegates to the 18th USSR Trade Union Congress.

An organizational plenum of the trade union's new central committee was held. V.I. Lapshin was re-elected central committee chairman.

SMAGIN NEW CHIEF OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS SUPPLY

LD311514 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1445 GMT 31 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow, 31 Jan (TASS) -- The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has appointed Leonid Smagin chairman of the State Committee for the Supply of Petroleum Products.

Leonid Smagin was born in 1932 and graduated from the Moscow Peat Institute. He began his working life as a geologist in a petroleum extraction directorate. From 1957 until 1966 he held a number of technical engineering posts in the oilfields of Tatariya. Since 1966 he has been doing party work. He was a secretary in the Leninogorsk Gorkom in the Tatar ASSR and since 1979 has been secretary and second secretary of the Tatar Obkom.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR 29 JAN-4 FEB NOTED

LD05257 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 29 January-4 February. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

29 January

The construction of a large irrigation system covring over 12,000 hectares [ha] has been started in Tatar ASSR; it will be controlled by automated devices. (0304)

Omsk Oblast farms have carried out snow retention work on nearly 1 million ha. The work is being made very complicated by the fact that the snow is not deep and is frozen hard. (1200)

All of Altay's intensively farmed acreage, consisting of 1.2 million ha, will be sown with only first-class seed in the spring. Traditional strong and hard wheat varieties -- Tselinnaya-20, Altayka, and Omskaya-9 -- will be used, plus new intensive-type wheat varieties -- Rossiyanka, Botanicheskaya-2, Tselinnaya-60, and Altayskaya-80 -- which are well suited to local farming conditions and produce excellent grain. Buckwheat, millet, and industrial crops will be grown intensively on significant areas. (1200)

No fileworthy reports monitored for 30 January

31 January

The managers of all the subunits of the agro-industrial complex of Priirtyshe will this year undergo certification for the right to work in the sphere of agricultural production. (0130)

There is much snow on the fields of Kazakhstan virgin lands, Siberia, and the Urals. There is a thick cover of snow on the fields of the Ukraine, the Central Chernozem Region and also in the Non-Chernozem Zone. In the opinion of specialists of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee and of scientists snow retention is useful in every location. The mechanizers' labor costs and the expenditure of fuel and of the equipment itself are great of course, but they are recouped with interest. Snow retention per ha costs 2 rubles. And even if the additional yield as a result of this is only 2-3 quintals of grain, expenditures are recouped a hundredfold and (?more). (0200)

No fileworthy reports monitored for 1-2 February

3 February

Snowstorms have blocked rural roads in Kaliningrad Oblast. Mechanized detachments, assisted by subunits of servicemen, are working to ensure that fodder get through and milk gets out. These detachments were formed in advance, and the oblast agro-industrial committee is operating a round-the-clock emergency service for fuel, equipment, and repairs.

PAVLOV VIEWS WINTER CROP LOSES, PREVENTION

PM061527 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 1

[O. Pavlov "Agricultural Review": "The Land Demands"]

[Text] It has been said over and over again that winter gives us jobs to do. But one never ceases to be surprised at the somewhat sluggish approach that is still found in what one might think were routine activities. Take crop farming, for example. One generation of agronomists makes way for the next, experience is apparently accumulated, more mineral fertilizers and plant protection agents become available, but the problem -- and it is a basic one -- remains the same. How to improve the performance of our arable land. Unfortunately, in a number of places its fertility is declining.

If you take RSFSR Central Statistical Administration data (and they reflect the general situation in the country as a whole), more mineral fertilizers were applied in 1986 than in 1985. Even more have been applied with a view to the 1987 harvest. That is fine, then. But let us not get carried away. In the first place, it is still not enough. In the second place, when is it applied and in what proportions? It is perfectly clear that there is a chronic shortage of phosphorus, especially for eastern areas. Yet there are proven stocks of phosphate rocks there. But the Ministry of Mineral Fertilizer Production is in no hurry (maybe it has not yet had the opportunity?) to assimilate them and prefers to ship phosphorus over long distances. Naturally, not in the quantities required by the Urals, Siberian, and Kazakh farmers.

But that is not the whole story. Farms are still not applying enough organic fertilizers. To go back to the RSFSR Central Statistical Administration data, it was only 4 quintals on average per hectare for last year's crop. It was 3.2 quintals for grain crops. There are regular patterns here: Leningrad Oblast -- 18.7 quintals; Orel Oblast -- 3.5, and the entire Volga area -- 2.8. These are different zones, you might say. However, let us continue the comparison: Tuva ASSR -- 0.8, Amur Oblast -- 1.3, whereas Kamchatka Oblast -- 24.1 and Sakhalin Oblast -- 36.9.

What is happening here? It is a complicated matter. You have the amount of land and the fertilizer application facilities. But there is something else too -- they use more organic fertilizers in places where livestock raising is better developed. It means people are literally forced to work with manure. There is a perplexing factor here as well: Scientists and practical experts have demonstrated that in areas which have periodic droughts, which should be regarded as a regular phenomenon rather than a calamity -- in the Volga area and in the central Chernozem Zone -- it is organic fertilizers which make the effect of the drought less disastrous. They are obviously not applying enough. Despite the fact that the stocks are there, and have been for a long time. Once again one might criticize the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building. Yes, there is a shortage of the requisite machinery. Then again, peasants in the Chernozem Zone, before the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building was set up, long before even, were never sparing of manure.

So at the moment the accumulation of organic fertilizers and prompt preparation of it for spreading is a very important task for rayon agro-industrial associations and farm specialists. Particularly as the USSR State Agro-industrial Committee has said that the spreading of organic fertilizers on the crust of ice covering the winter crops helps to destroy the crust in the spring.

As for the state of winter crops, around 9 million hectares have perished.

Of late, however, the situation in many areas has stabilized. In the Left-bank Ukraine, in the North Caucasus, except Rostov Oblast, and in the non-Chernozem Zone most oblasts have a good covering of snow which has protected the winter crops from the cold.

Now for that crust of ice. Usually the biggest threat is in December. This time, in fact, it formed over an area of around 600,000 hectares at the end of January and the beginning of February. Agronomists claim that winter crops can survive beneath the crust for 60 days. I estimate that they will survive. But the harvest will be bigger if the crust is destroyed. Cetainly not by caterpillar tracks and wheels; experience shows that this does no good. Agronomists on farms must think for themselves. The main thing is to constantly keep an eye on the state of the winter crops and tackle the questions which specialists have a responsibility to tackle, and not put then down to "adverse weather conditions."

We have talked briefly about the winter crop.

Now the spring crop. The requirement is that the good covering of now which Siberia and Kazakhstan have at the moment should not turn into a flood, as has happened more than once before. So the requirement is to make skillful use of the snow. Farms must not merely report on how many hectares they have carried out snow retention measures, but they must consider the fuel that has been consumed, the machine operators' wages, and, most important of all, the final results of the work. That is, operate in accordance with the demand of financial autonomy. Alas, it does not always happen that way. And the agro-industrial committee should now be focusing attention on this question during the period of winter training.

What seeds are used is important, of course. It is another concern at the present moment, although it is good when everything is being done in good time. However... Back to that Central Statistical Administration report again: Some 3,330 farms were surveyed in the Volga area; 148 kolkhozes or sovkhozes had no spring grain and pulse seeds at all on 1 January, 45 farms and 20 percent of the total required, and 38 farms had between 20 and 40 percent. In all oblasts are short of more than 1 million metric tons of seeds. The main "problem" oblasts are Volgorad and Penza. Add to them oblasts from other regions -- Rostov, Kurgan, and Omsk. As for these three, it is an odd situation — after all they had pretty good harvests, unlike the harvest in the Volga area. Did they then hand the seeds over to ensure "fulfillment and overfulfillment" of the plan or is the grain not in sowing condition yet?

At the USSR State Agro-industrial Committee I was told, and, to be honest, I was amazed: Many farms have not managed to report, apparently. Well, really! If nothing else, we are good at reporting. Certainly by 1 January. Then they reassured me that the state has the seeds, and anyone who needs them will receive what is due to him. I will say, however, that the seed work must not be put off, in view of the resowing and replacement of winter crops, which is, of course, necessary. In fact farms still have to work on the seeds before sowing them.

And the land requires special attention today, since the plan requires us to obtain a high gross harvest of grain and other crops.